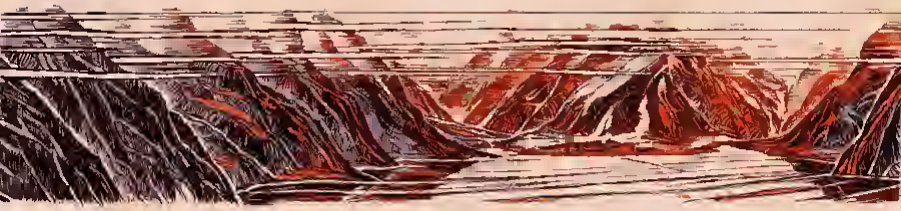
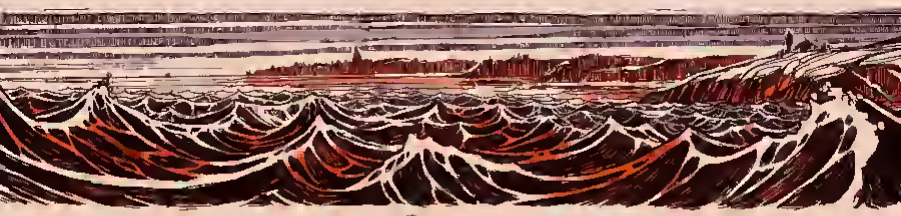
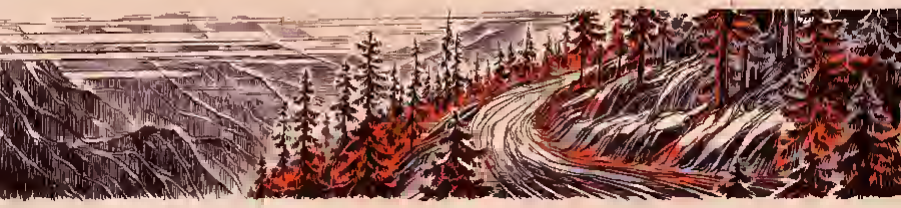


Stand

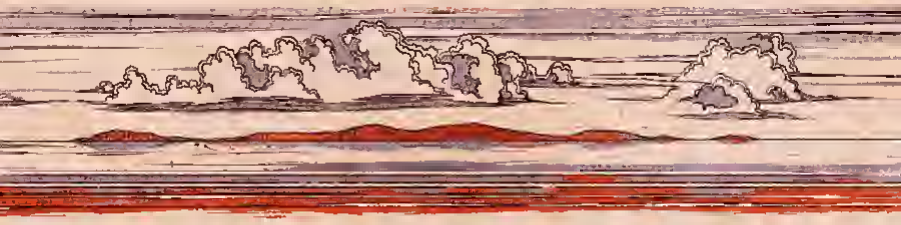


Still

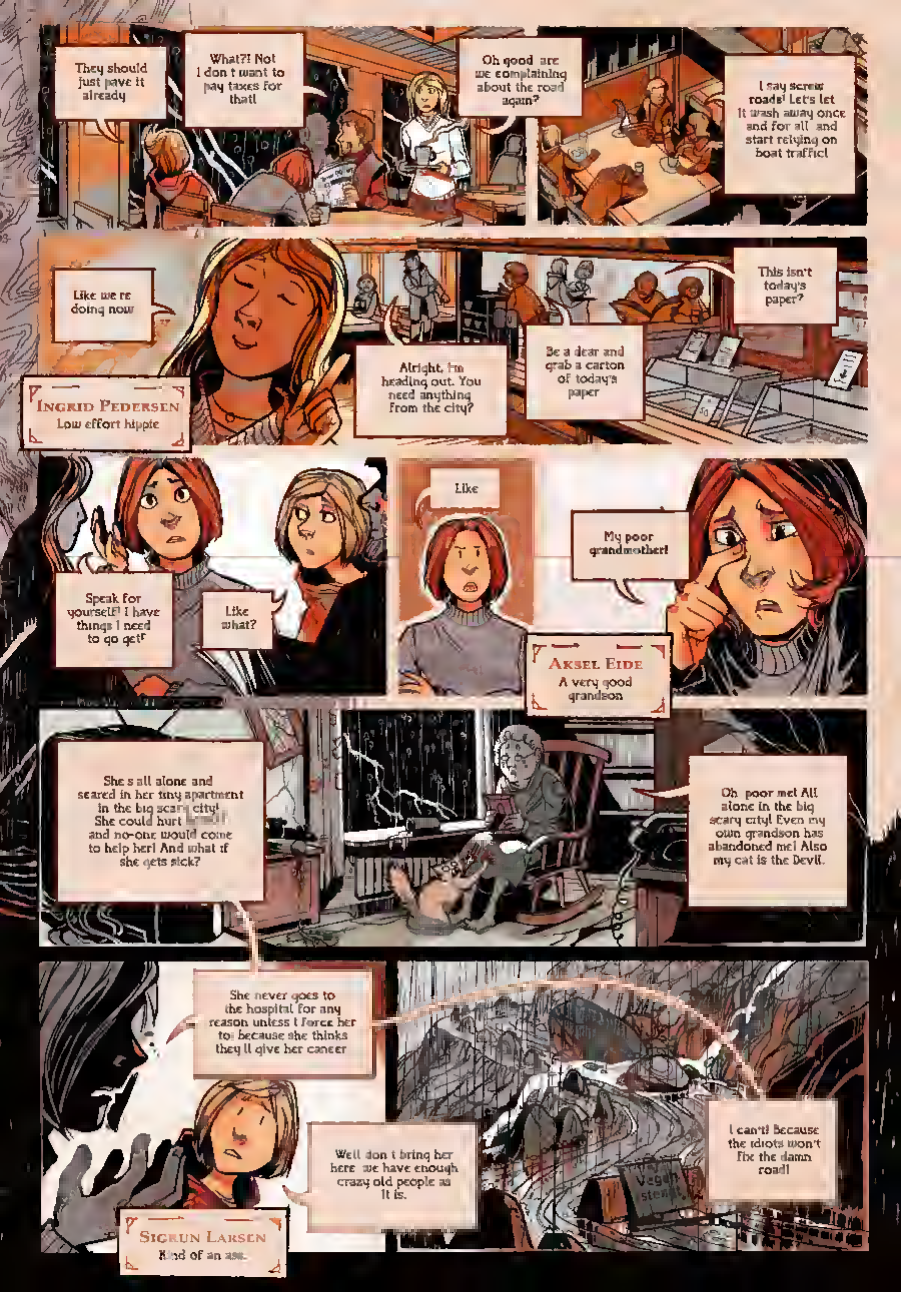
Stay



Silent



DALSNES
Year 0, Day 0
Norway
Sooo.. apparently the road is going to stay closed for a while
They won't even try fixing it until the rain stops.
Ah. So never
Don't be a grump! It'll stop raining in a few days
No, sorry, I remembered wrong. It'll start raining even more in a few days


They should just pave it already
What?! Not I don't want to pay taxes for that!
Oh good are we complaining about the road again?
I say screw roads! Let's let it wash away once and for all and start relying on boat traffic!
Like we're doing now
Ingrid Pedersen
Low effort hippie
Alright, I'm heading out. You need anything from the city?
Be a dear and grab a carton of today's paper
This isn't today's paper?
Speak for yourself! I have things I need to go get!
Like what?
Like
My poor grandmother!
Aksel Eide
A very good grandson
She's all alone and scared in her tiny apartment in the big scary city! She could hurt [illegible] and no-one would come to help her! And what if she gets sick?
Oh poor me! All alone in the big scary city! Even my own grandson has abandoned me! Also my cat is the Devil.
She never goes to the hospital for any reason unless I force her to- because she thinks they'll give her cancer
Well don't bring her here we have enough crazy old people as it is.
Sigrun Larsen
Kind of an ass.
I can't! Because the idiots won't fix the damn road!

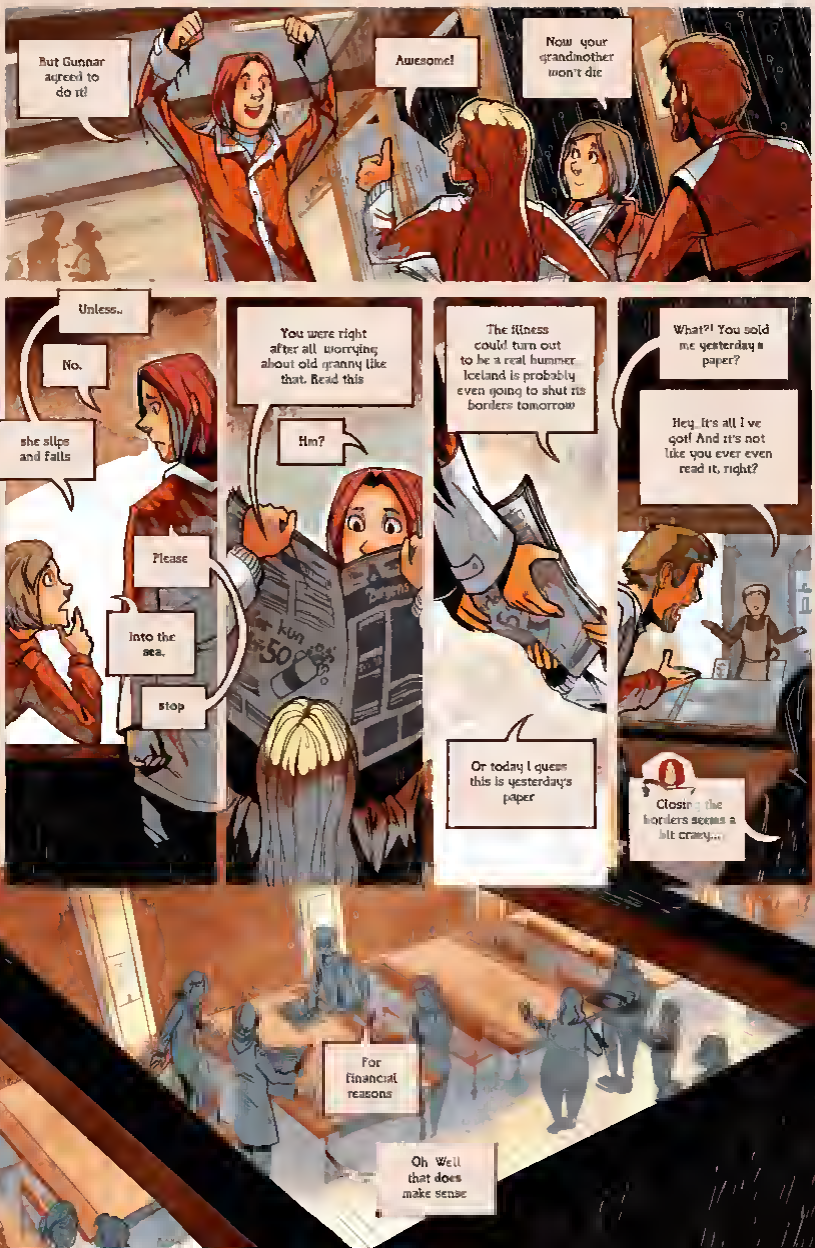
I'm sure she'll be fine on her own.
Don't say that! You're jinxing it! What if she gets the rash illness?
Then she'll be bedridden for a week
Hmmm. A lonely, elderly person who is afraid of hospitals, bedridden for a week... doesn't sound too great
And she's old
Wait. I had a point!
Right here!
Thank you for your input now I know
GØRAN ANDERSEN
Thinks his beard is awesome
Old people and young children might be at risk of serious health issues if they get the rash illness so they should go to the hospital...
And fat people, apparently?
And they think it's very likely that it'll spread to Norway within the next few weeks. You better go get granny!
Don't cry! I know what you can do! Ask Gunnar to bring her here on his boat!
Whooops too late
AAAAAARGH
He left.

Unless you want to run out and
Oh, okay
GUNNAAR!
Oh, hey Did you want something from Bergen too?
Yes!
One grandmother, please!
Uh...
I was going to get things like fruit and booze and stuff.. not... grandmothers
Great! I'll call her and tell her to meet you at the harbour!

You're not even listening to me, are you?
You're the best!
Hey! Do we have room for an old lady on the way back?
And a cat probably
An old lady?
Hrmmm-hmm...
...fine. Maybe she'll fit in some corner.
But don't blame me if she slips and falls into the sea!
Alright. One grandma and one cat.
Does she know what the boat looks like?
She does! She thinks it's ugly.
Well... hrmph! Tell her to be at the harbour at six, no later!
I will! You're a beautiful human being and I love you!
You're welcome.
Hellooo?
Hiii grandma! It's me! Your favourite grandson!

I sent a guy to come bring you here! You remember Gunnar?
What nonsense have you cooked up now, puppy?
If you come here I'll be able to look after you properly!
I don't need to be looked after, you silly birdie!
But - ah - what if - you fall down?
I'll get up and make myself some coffee
What if you can't get up then what?
Oh please- pleaseplease let me look after you! Please?
Hrrmmr- hrmm
-fine
Yes! Be at the harbour at six! Gunnar's boat is the ugly one
Then you'll see that I don't need any help! (And Gunnar's boat isn't ugly.)
Sigh You worry too much.
-CLICK!-
Pff okay
?!?

Bwahahaah! Guys, look! Look!
Guys you missed it!
Did you even read this whole thing?
Umm.. no? I just skimmed it. I only wanted the crosswords anyway
The Icelandic government is planning to completely shut down their borders for the whole month
That seems... a tiny bit crazy Are they angry at something?
It's for financial reasons
Island vil stenge grei
They think the risk of having most of the workforce sick at home for even a couple of weeks will cost them more than a short period of isolation
It's raining a lot, huh?
Ahah, yeah! Raining, yes! It's like taking a bath out there. But it was just rain, nothing worse than that


But Gunnar agreed to do it!
Awesome!
Now your grandmother won't die
Unless..
No.
she slips and falls
Please
into the sea.
stop
You were right after all worrying about old granny like that. Read this
Hm?
The fitness could turn out to be a real hummer. Iceland is probably even going to shut its borders tomorrow
Or today I guess this is yesterday's paper
What?! You sold me yesterday's paper?
Hey, it's all I've got! And it's not like you ever even read it, right?
Closing the borders seems a bit crazy...
For financial reasons
Oh. Well that does make sense

There's no way they would pull off a thing like this if they weren't just a tiny island. All they have to sell is horses anyway.
And fish.
Hey, I'm happy for them! They'll do fine on their own for a long time, they've got their food to eat and their endless free energy. That's all anyone needs.
I wish our government would look after our well-being like that. I thought that's what we're paying them for!
Mmh
Yeeesh! You really think the weather is still going to get worse?
It's what the paper said
In that case I doubt even Gunnar is going to keep heading out to run errands for us anymore.
I'm okay with that as long as he makes it back this time
Heh, we might not even need the government to isolate us from the world the storm could take care of that
WOOO! Come on, storm! Make those waves bigger!
Ahah. If you don't mind, I'd like to get a bit farther away from those waves now.

Another thing that'd be kind of cool would be the electricity going out for a couple of weeks too. It'd be like living a hundred years ago!
Heh. I hope that happens
Could you two stop jinxing everything already?!
When you wish for bad things to happen they will happen!

KØBENHAVN
MALMÖ
Year 0, Day 3
Denmark
BORNHOLM
And you are aware of the fact that I don t appreciate you taking a personal trip so close to the merger negotiations, aren t you?
Look, I'm just taking my cat over to my sister's place. I can t very well leave him at a cat hotel, those places are practically kitty-jails!
What?! That is not a sentence I want to hear an employee of mine uttering! Ever!
BornholmerFærgen
Fine! I'm on an important business trip doing important business things! And I accidentally took my cat with me.
Very funny!
Michael Madsen hates his boss and is perhaps a bit too arrogant.
I thought so too.
I'm taking the ferry back tomorrow morning. I'll be there on time
Mrow!
Tomorrow!? That's too late!

I want you here by tomorrow morning or you're fired!

Fine! I'll take the night ferry back. Does that make you happy?

Eeegh, night ferry... that sounds like something smelly. Do they have helicopters over there? I'd rather see you take one of those.

I'll ask.

...and the ministry of health and prevention has decided to further restrict traffic across the Danish borders...

And if they don't have helicopters, try to...

...in addition to yesterday's decision to temporarily suspend international air traffic

While the closing of the international air hub of Kastrup is already expected to damage the reputation of Denmark as a reliable trading partner and put a strain on the economy even after the restrictions are lifted.

...the government has deemed it necessary to also prohibit international sea and land traffic for the time being, effective as of today.

1
2
3
4

This makes Denmark the first non-island nation to close down its borders in an attempt to hinder the spread of the so-called "rash illness" to the country

All traffic over the Øresund bridge to Sweden, and across the southern border from Germany will be suspended at 16:00 today, and international boat traffic will be redirected into Swedish waters.

...and so far both the nationality of the refugees and the genealogy of the pathogen remain unknown.

The various authorities behind this decision have taken a "better safe than sorry" stance because of the unpredictably rapid spread of the illness. It was first diagnosed only five days ago. The first patients were a group of eleven illegal refugees arriving on a boat to Spain last week.

The pathogen has an incubation time ranging from several days to almost two weeks. It's already contagious during this period, and affects both humans and other mammals.

The pathogen does not survive for long outside a host, but spreads easily through the airways. The first visible symptoms are the distinctive patches of rash like skin ailments commonly followed by vomiting and sporadic fever spells.

Very few details about the current status of the initially infected patients have been released to the general public but the illness has caused no fatalities.

The world health organization has also given an optimistic statement that the original patients have not taken a turn for the worse and are expected to start recovering in the next few days.

Good

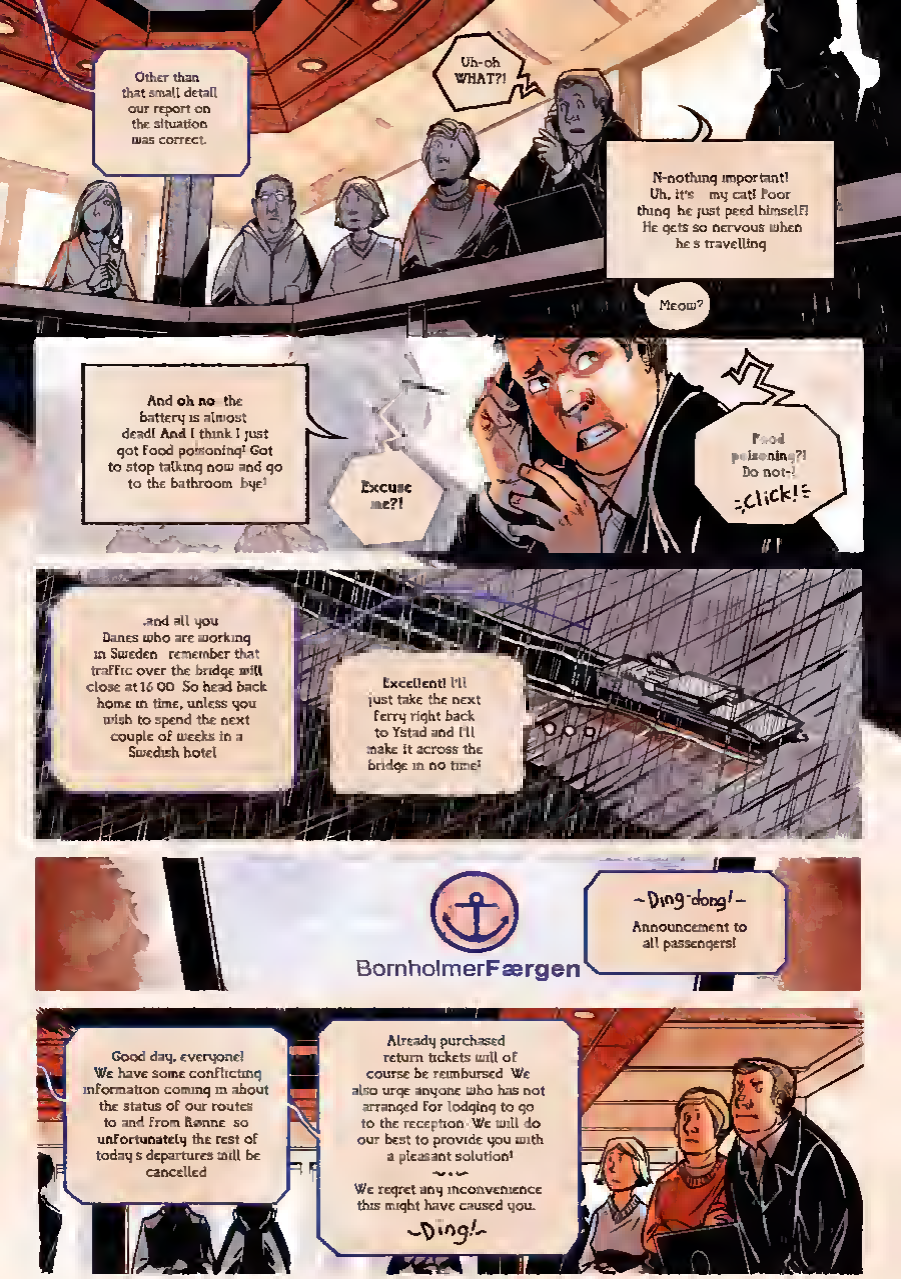
M-hm

Aaaand looks like we've got a quick correction about our own situation here... all traffic in Danish waters will be prohibited.

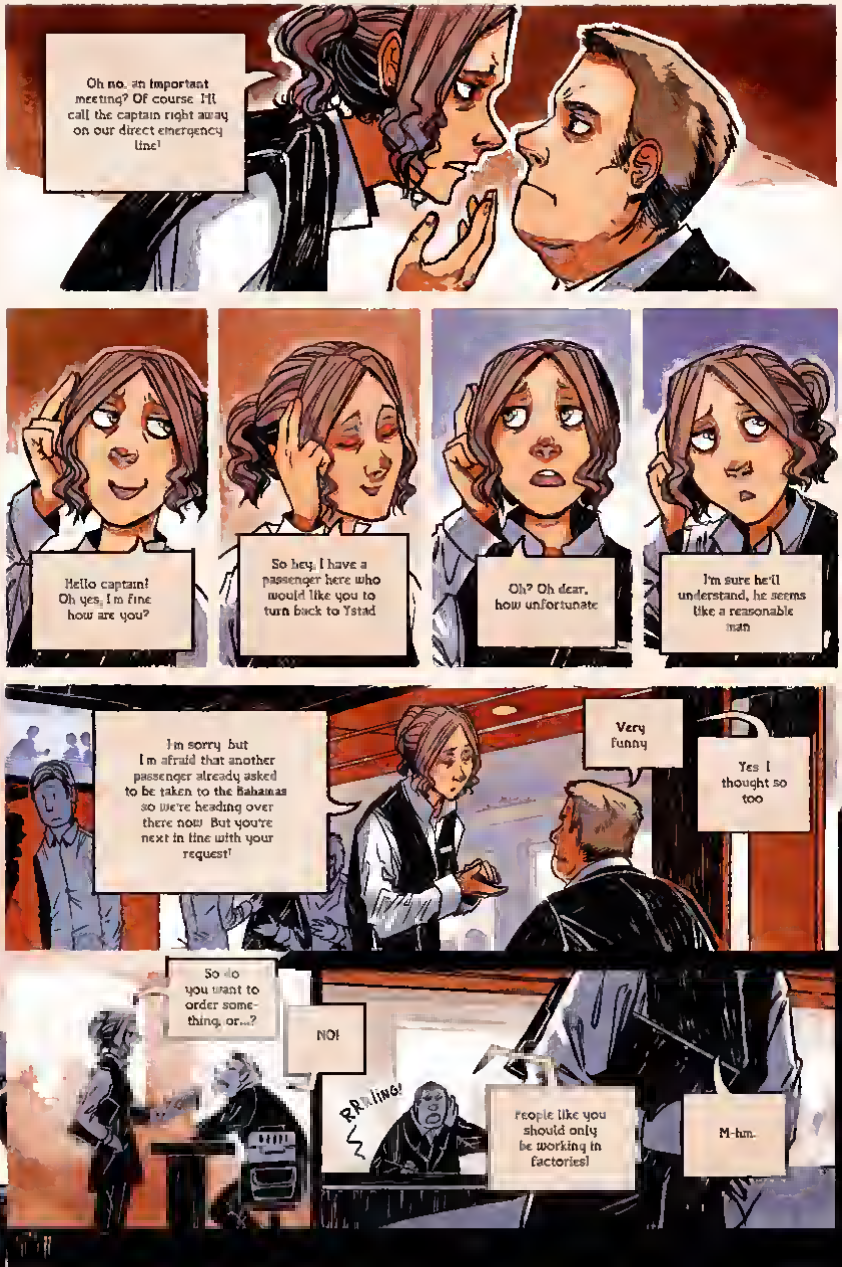
So that goes for domestic routes too...

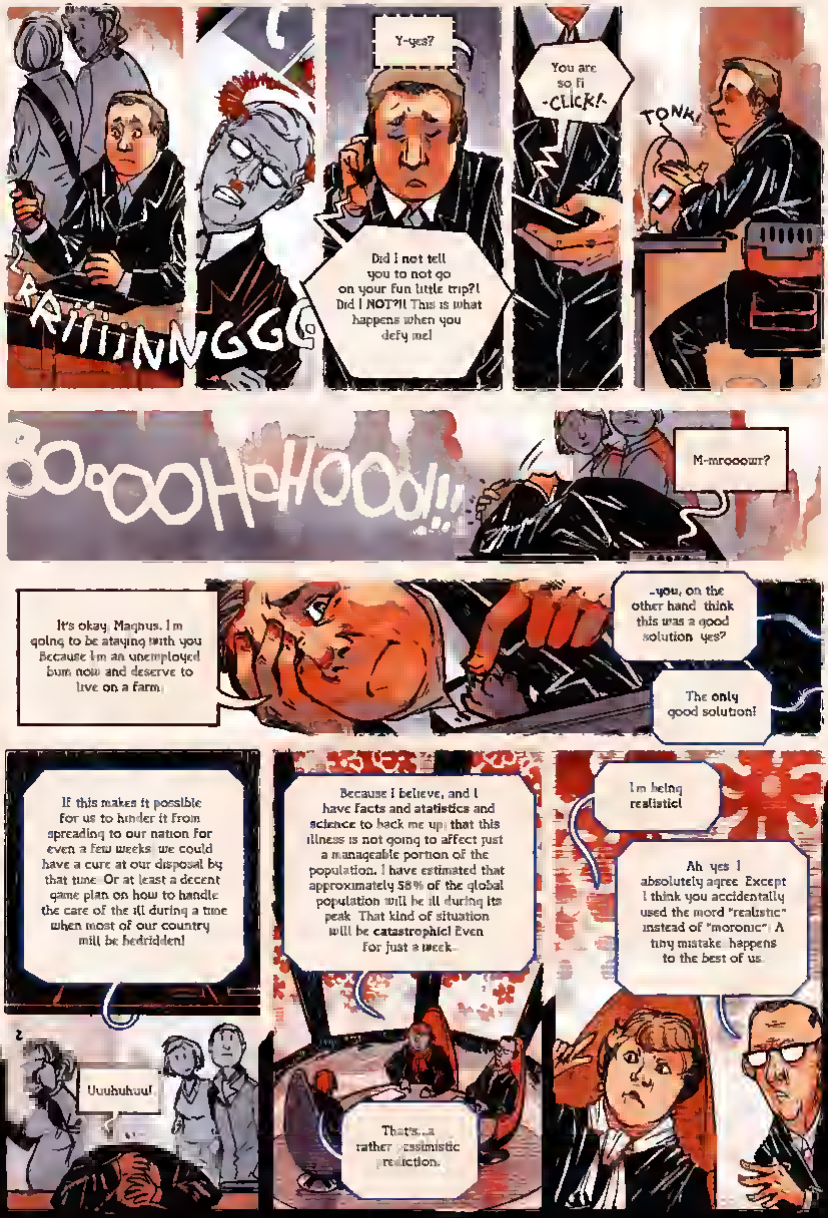
Uh-oh!

...and check if-what? What "uh-oh"?


Other than that small detail our report on the situation was correct.
Uh-oh WHAT?!
N-nothing important! Uh, it's my cat! Poor thing he just peed himself! He gets so nervous when he's travelling
Meow?
And oh no the battery is almost dead! And I think I just got food poisoning! Got to stop talking now and go to the bathroom bye!
Excuse me?!
Food poisoning?! Do not-!
=Click!=
...and all you Danes who are working in Sweden remember that traffic over the bridge will close at 16:00 So head back home in time, unless you wish to spend the next couple of weeks in a Swedish hotel
Excellent! I'll just take the next ferry right back to Ystad and I'll make it across the bridge in no time!
BornholmerFærgen
~Ding-dong!~
Announcement to all passengers!
Good day, everyone! We have some conflicting information coming in about the status of our routes to and from Rønne so unfortunately the rest of today's departures will be cancelled
Already purchased return tickets will of course be reimbursed We also urge anyone who has not arranged for lodging to go to the reception We will do our best to provide you with a pleasant solution!
~.~.~
We regret any inconvenience this might have caused you.
~Ding!~

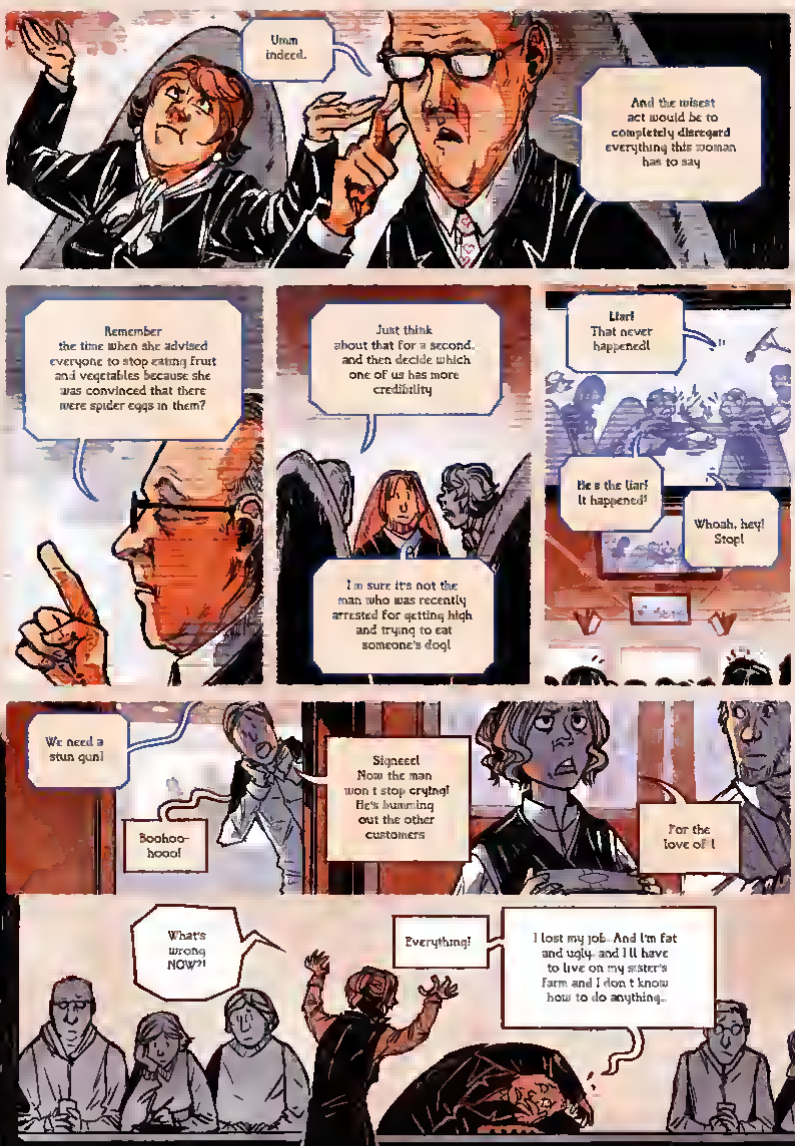
Well I'll say! Someone will be receiving an angry letter from me about this, mark my words!
No, that's not modern. We should team up and write a lot of angry emails to a lot of people!
Yaay! I won't make it to school tomorrow!
H-hey! More outrage, please!
Excuse me! Excuse me, BOAT SERVANTS!!!
I will not accept this! Tell the captain to turn back now, or I will sue all of you!
I'll sue you, and you and you!
M-me?!
Yes, you!
Signe, help! There's an angry man who won't stop yelling!
He's scaring the other customers.
I'll take care of it.
Signe Sørensen
Was fired from her last job. And the one before that.
Yeeees?
Finally, some service! I demand that you call your captain right now and tell him to turn back to the mainland. I have an important meeting tomorrow!


Oh no, an important meeting? Of course. I'll call the captain right away on our direct emergency line!
Hello captain! Oh yes, I'm fine how are you?
So hey, I have a passenger here who would like you to turn back to Ystad
Oh? Oh dear, how unfortunate
I'm sure he'll understand, he seems like a reasonable man
I'm sorry but I'm afraid that another passenger already asked to be taken to the Bahamas so we're heading over there now. But you're next in line with your request!
Very funny
Yes I thought so too
So do you want to order something, or...?
NO!
RRrring!
People like you should only be working in factories!
M-hm.


ARIIIINNGGG
Y-yes?
Did I not tell you to not go on your fun little trip?! Did I NOT?!! This is what happens when you defy me!
You are so fi
-CLICK!-
TONK
BOOOOHOOO!!!
M-mrooowr?
It's okay, Magnus. I'm going to be staying with you. Because I'm an unemployed bum now and deserve to live on a farm.
...you, on the other hand, think this was a good solution, yes?
The only good solution!
If this makes it possible for us to hinder it from spreading to our nation for even a few weeks, we could have a cure at our disposal by that time. Or at least a decent game plan on how to handle the care of the ill during a time when most of our country will be bedridden!
Because I believe, and I have facts and statistics and science to back me up, that this illness is not going to affect just a manageable portion of the population. I have estimated that approximately 58% of the global population will be ill during its peak. That kind of situation will be catastrophic! Even for just a week.
I'm being realistic!
Ah, yes. I absolutely agree. Except I think you accidentally used the word "realistic" instead of "moronic". A tiny mistake, happens to the best of us.
Uuuhuhuu!
That's...a rather pessimistic prediction.

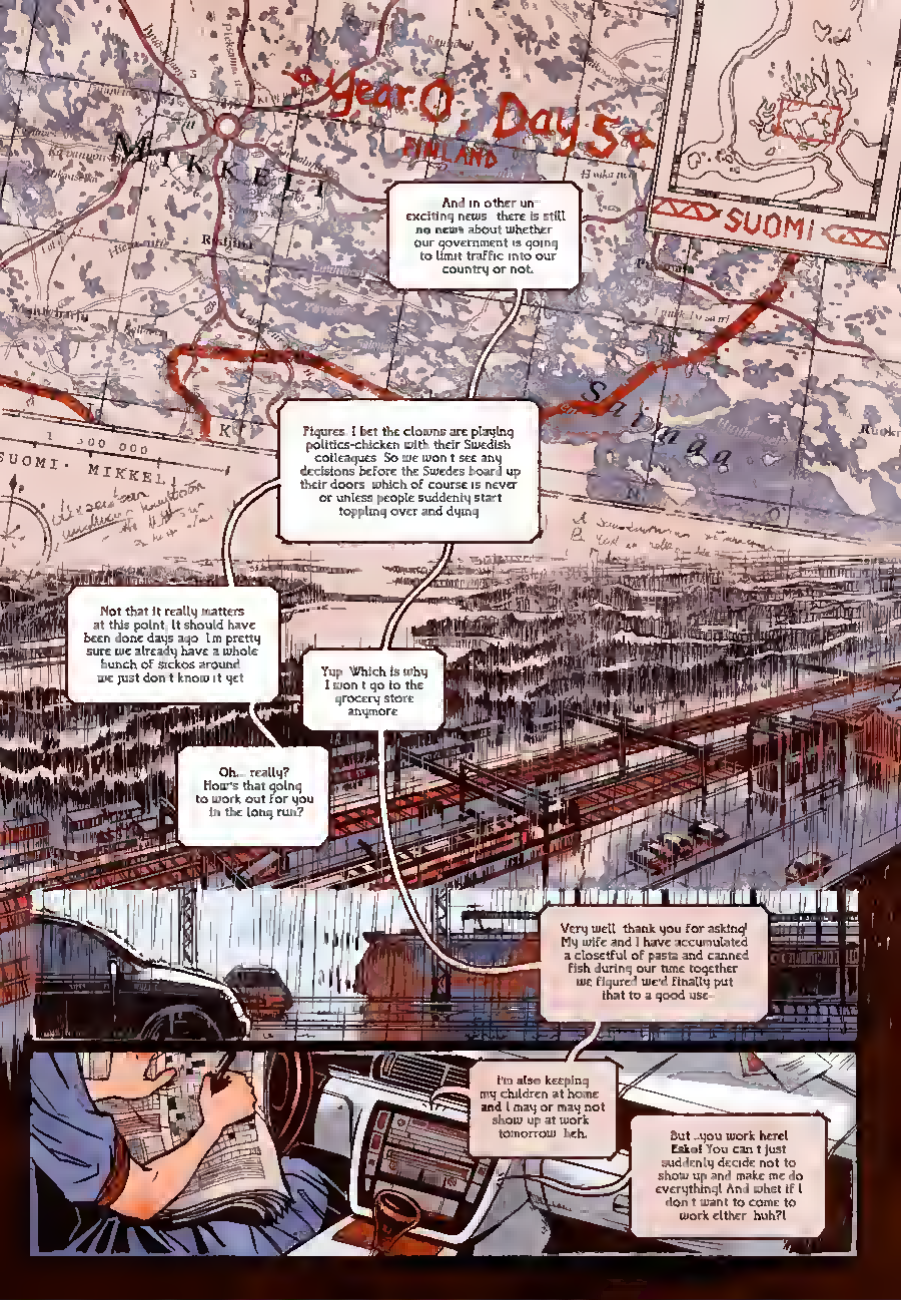
Oh, great counter argument! You just convinced everyone that all is fine and dandy and pre-emptive measures are dumb. We should all just go home and enjoy some eco-farmed marijuana, right?
Well, I think that-
Get your rainbow tinted glasses off your egg-head face and see the miserable reality already! People are going to start dying any day now, and the government knows that!
Do you want to die? Do you want the people in the audience to die, huh?!
Let's let Mr. Pedersen speak for a change, shall we?
Look, we live in a free world. We shouldn't be dictating who is allowed to travel where or when. I'm certain that not letting people cross our borders is a violation of basic human rights!
Not that you would care about that!
And it's particularly silly for such a tame illness. People aren't going to just start dying en masse all of a sudden. No one has so far.
Suuure.
Yes, sure! Unless you know something that I don't know!
Clearly I do, because you know nothing!
O-okay, would you like to share?
I keep reading all these claims that the "patients zero" are all in decent condition, and even expected to start recovering soon.
Well, if that's true, then how come we don't even know the freaking nationality of these damn people?!
Because they were either comatose or DEAD before anyone could figure that out!

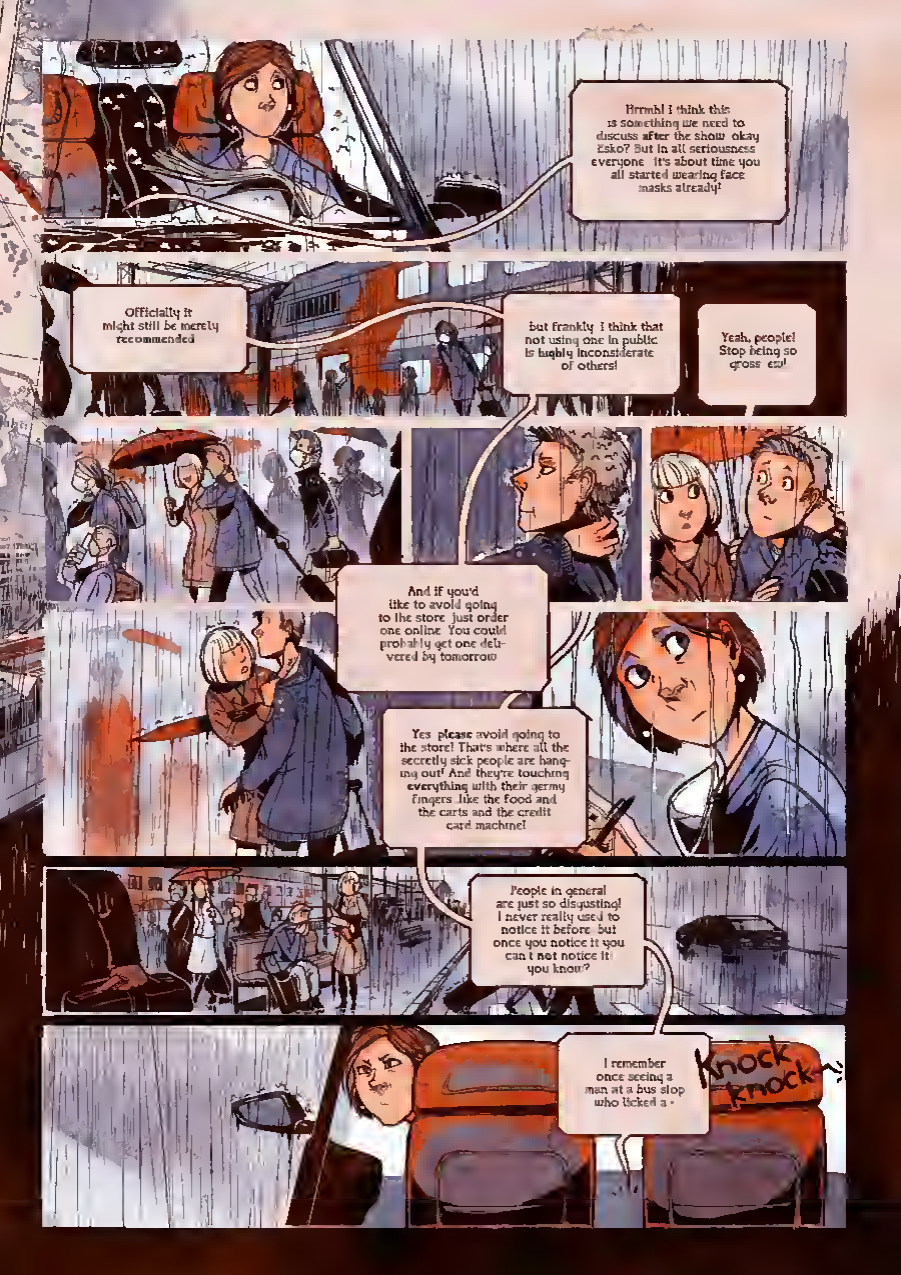
They're refugees they're scared and won't-
Like there wouldn't be an army of linguists hovering around them every second of the day if there was anything left to hover around! Just a cough and they could probably figure out where someone's from!
You make a very .. passionate case for yourself Stine.
But I'm sure you can see that many of our viewers would view you as a crazy conspiracy theorist. As usual.
Do you really think the government is out to get us?
No, not at all.
I'm sure they just want to prevent a mass panic. Which I can understand, but I believe that people deserve the truth so that everyone can make proper preparations for themselves.
People start bottling up clean water now! Fill your buckets and bath tubs with it!
And start wearing face masks already!
I would be wearing mine.. but they wouldn't let me into the studio with it on.
See how serious I am? I even risked my own health coming here!
It's because I truly care about my fellow man. You all deserved the truth, and I've given it to you. Now act wisely!


Umm indeed.
And the wisest act would be to completely disregard everything this woman has to say
Remember the time when she advised everyone to stop eating fruit and vegetables because she was convinced that there were spider eggs in them?
Just think about that for a second, and then decide which one of us has more credibility
I'm sure it's not the man who was recently arrested for getting high and trying to eat someone's dog!
Liar! That never happened!
He's the liar! It happened!
Whoah, hey! Stop!
We need a stun gun!
Boohoo-hooo!
Sigheeel Now the man won't stop crying! He's bumming out the other customers
For the love of !
What's wrong NOW?!
Everything!
I lost my job. And I'm fat and ugly, and I'll have to live on my sister's farm and I don't know how to do anything...

Oh come on don't say that
You're not fat!
To me you genuinely look like you're just big-boned. Maybe a tiny bit on the chubby side, but it's not terrible
And if it makes you feel any better...
I'm pretty much out of a job, too, until this whole situation is over and the ferry line opens up again. Who knows when that will be?
And at least you'll get to stay on some one's farm! They'll probably make us sleep on the benches right here on board. We don't even have any cabins...
That... does make me feel better, thanks. It'll be better for everyone in the world if you get laid off permanently and become a plumber or something instead
Ah well.
Cute cat, by the way.
Meow!
Oh, yeah he's precious. His name is Magnus

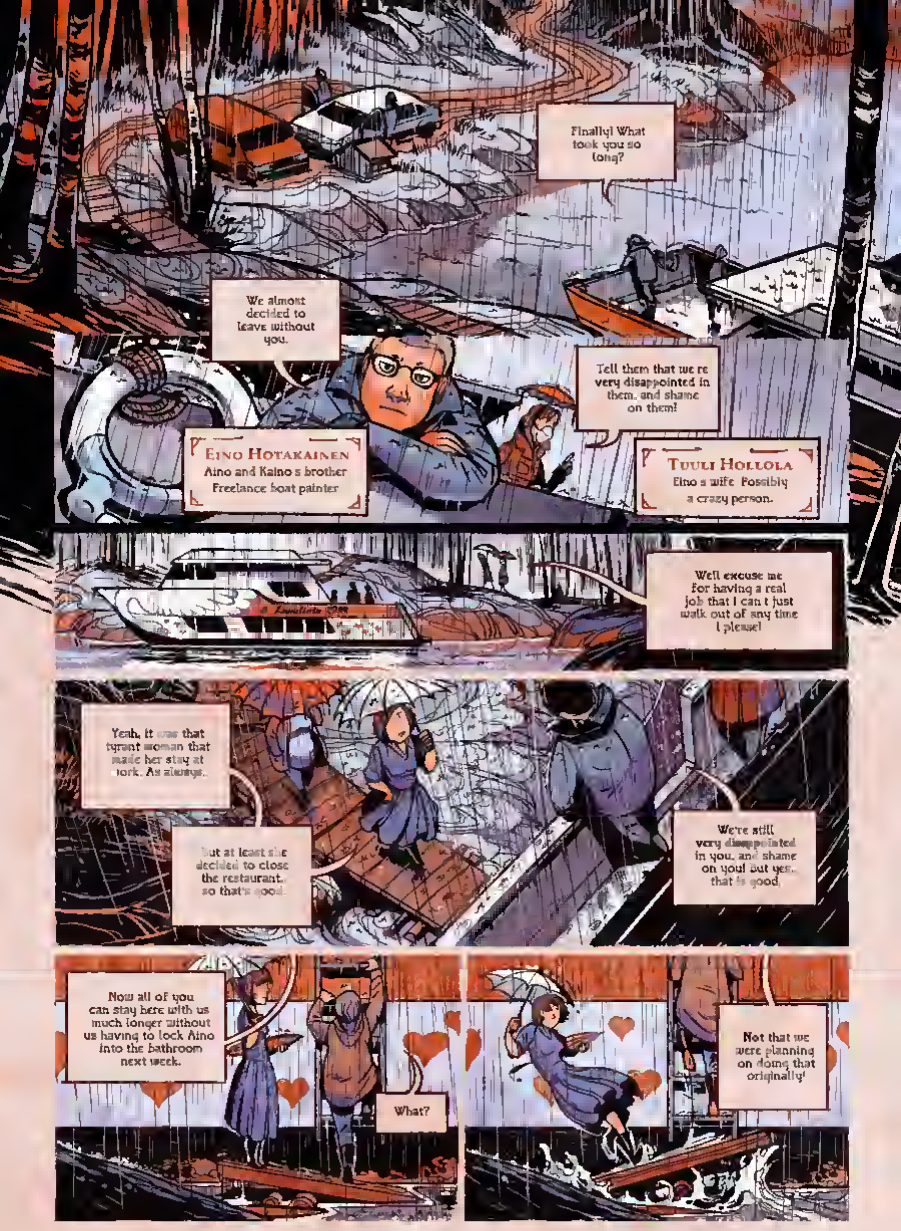
He's the reason I'm even here in the first place, so I think I'll make him my little scapegoat.
He doesn't mind being blamed for things he had no say in that's one of his best features
Pssshhh!
I'm Michael.
Signe
You know you could just treat this as a well deserved vacation instead of something terrible. At least that's what I plan to do
Things always work out in the end somehow
I suppose you're right


Year 0, Day 54
FINLAND
MIKKELI
SUOMI
And in other un-exciting news there is still no news about whether our government is going to limit traffic into our country or not.
Figures. I bet the clowns are playing politics-chicken with their Swedish colleagues. So we won't see any decisions before the Swedes board up their doors which of course is never or unless people suddenly start toppling over and dying
Not that it really matters at this point. It should have been done days ago. I'm pretty sure we already have a whole bunch of sickos around we just don't know it yet
Yup. Which is why I won't go to the grocery store anymore
Oh... really? How's that going to work out for you in the long run?
Very well, thank you for asking! My wife and I have accumulated a closetful of pasta and canned fish during our time together we figured we'd finally put that to a good use-
I'm also keeping my children at home and I may or may not show up at work tomorrow. Heh.
But ...you work here! Eskot You can't just suddenly decide not to show up and make me do everything! And what if I don't want to come to work either huh?!


Brrrrbl I think this is something we need to discuss after the show okay Esko? But in all seriousness everyone It's about time you all started wearing face masks already!
Officially it might still be merely recommended
but frankly I think that not using one in public is highly inconsiderate of others!
Yeah, people! Stop being so gross ew!
And if you'd like to avoid going to the store just order one online You could probably get one delivered by tomorrow
Yes please avoid going to the store! That's where all the secretly sick people are hanging out! And they're touching everything with their germy fingers like the food and the carts and the credit card machine!
People in general are just so disgusting! I never really used to notice it before but once you notice it you can't not notice it! you know?
I remember once seeing a man at a bus stop who licked a -
Knock knock-

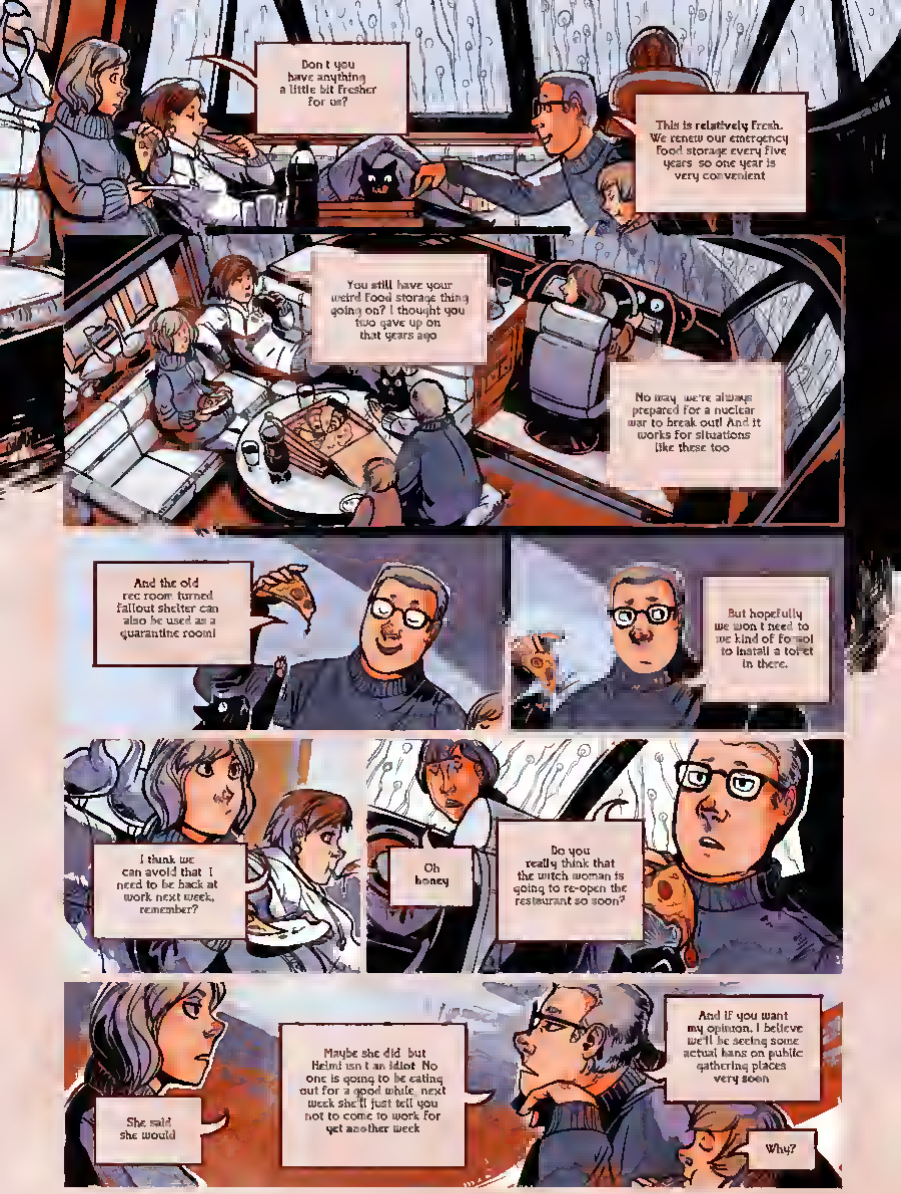
Hi~!
The door's open
Aino Hotakainen
Kaino's older sister
waitress
Kaino Hotakainen
Aino's younger sister,
totally unemployed
Um please try to not drip too much, okay?
I'll call Saku and tell him to wait by the door with the bags
No need. I picked him up hours ago.
We've just been waiting for you to get off work
Oh sorry It wouldn't have taken this long but Heini decided to keep the restaurant closed next week
She made us all stay to clean up and put everything in storage
Oh, great Now you won't need to cash in your vacation days
I also won't get paid which is less great
But so did you really get Saku to go on the boat voluntarily?

Hah not He made it voluntarily to the water but then he freaked out and tried to run away We had to drag him on board
And once we got him up on the deck he started crying It was so funny
Oh dear
But believe it or not he didn t try to get back ashore once we got him up there I don t think you know just how worried your husband is
Trust me I know
He's been overreacting as always ridiculously so these last few days Maybe he'll finally shut up now
Oh, I don't know if it's that ridiculous.
Oh no, please tell me you're not going to be acting all worried too This is supposed to be a fun little trip, not an escape from society by the crazy people
Promise that you won t turn my vacation into that
I promise.


Finally! What took you so long?
We almost decided to leave without you.
Tell them that we're very disappointed in them, and shame on them!
Eino Hotakainen
Aino and Kaino's brother
Freelance boat painter
Tuuli Hollola
Eino's wife. Possibly a crazy person.
We'll excuse me for having a real job that I can't just walk out of any time I please!
Yeah, it was that tyrant woman that made her stay at work. As always.
But at least she decided to close the restaurant, so that's good.
We're still very disappointed in you, and shame on you! But yes, that is good.
Now all of you can stay here with us much longer without us having to lock Aino into the bathroom next week.
What?
Not that we were planning on doing that originally!

I'm sooo glad you're all here! Now maybe you won't die.
Aaaa, please don't say things like that! This is just a fun little trip, nothing crazy! Please stop...
That's what you get for not wearing season appropriate clothing
Did you wear your face mask at work? Have you washed your hands? Did you lick anyone today?
...No?
Very well. I trust you.
Now if one of us dies we'll both die Together As a family
Yyyhyyanhh
Oh yeah that one isn't doing too great He got measles already
But hey at least he is doing better than last time right? Less screaming
We're going inside someone needs a dry set of clothes.
My poor baby!

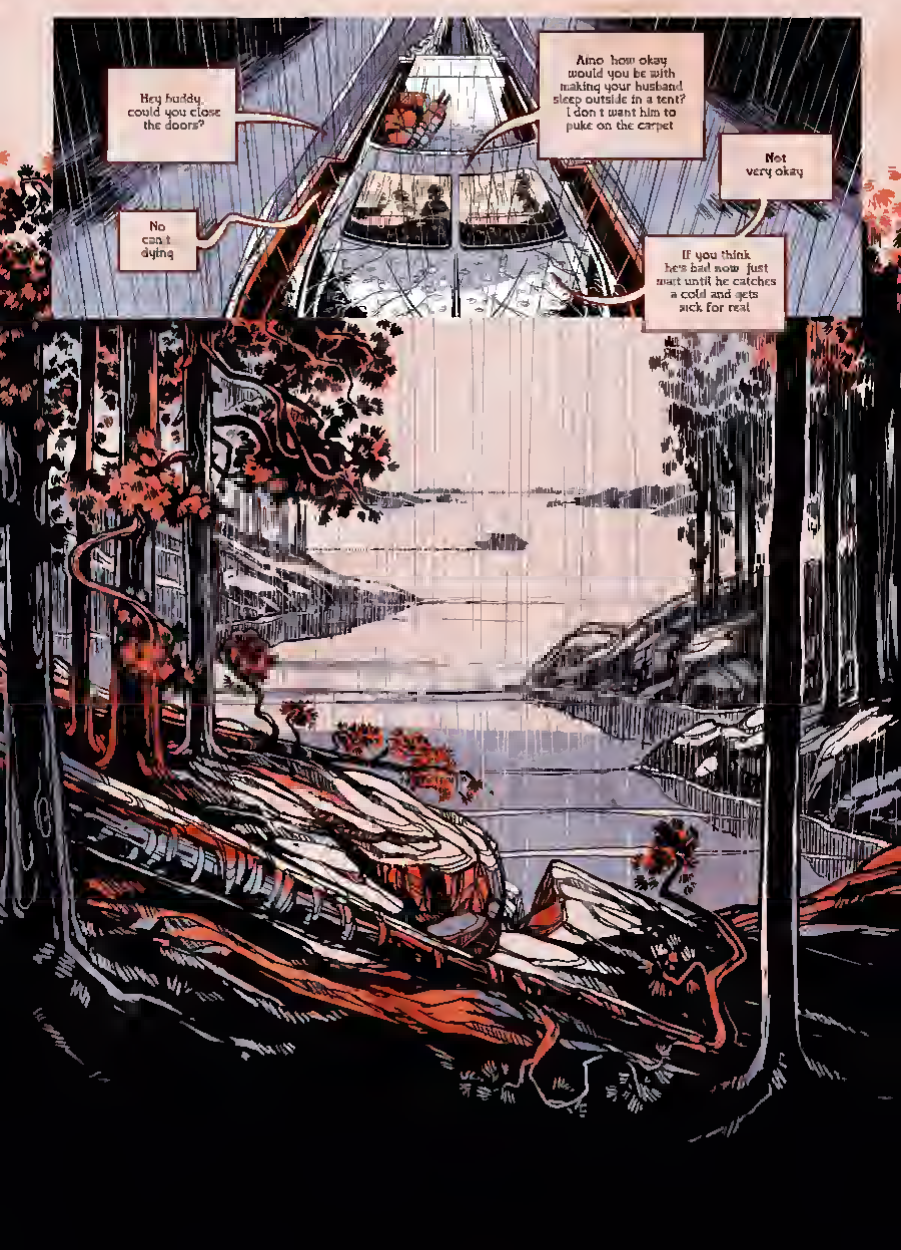
Uuhuhuu...
Saku!
Saku Hotakainen
Aino's husband. Usually "dying" from something
How are you holding up, sweetie-pie?
I'm dying, but that's okay
Dying on a boat is a heroic way to go. I prefer this over dying at home from some weird illness
Okay
I want you to know that I loved you
Both of you
Hey, thanks. I really care for you too, buddy
I've got some pizza ready for dinner, I hope you're hungry
Saku, do you feel like eating yet or—?
no?
Okay
KROOOOOM
Ummm—I don't mean to complain, but did you do something weird to these pizzas? They feel a tiny bit like elephant skin
Oh yeah, they've been in the freezer for about a year. I just blasted them in the microwave. We've got a ton of yummy frozen goodies in stock!


Don't you have anything a little bit fresher for us?
This is relatively fresh. We renew our emergency food storage every five years so one year is very convenient
You still have your weird food storage thing going on? I thought you two gave up on that years ago
No way, we're always prepared for a nuclear war to break out! And it works for situations like these too
And the old rec room turned fallout shelter can also be used as a quarantine room!
But hopefully we won't need to use that kind of formal to install a toilet in there.
I think we can avoid that. I need to be back at work next week, remember?
Oh honey
Do you really think that the witch woman is going to re-open the restaurant so soon?
She said she would
Maybe she did but Helmi isn't an idiot. No one is going to be eating out for a good while next week she'll just tell you not to come to work for yet another week
And if you want my opinion, I believe we'll be seeing some actual bans on public gathering places very soon
Why?

Because of boring adult reasons! And hey, why don't you go downstairs and do some gaming on your PlayGuy thingie? Let the grown-ups discuss our lame issues.
No! I want to see out the windows!
Veeti Hollola
Eino and Tuuli's brat
Has been kept home from school for like a week...
There's windows downstairs too.
Shoo! Off you go! And take Misu-Misu with you before she drools all over our food
Sheesh kids. They're always everywhere! Prepare to never have a private moment ever again after yours plops out.
And they're so fragile. We're trying to not let him know about the impending doom, so let's not discuss anything we hear on the news when he's present, alright?
As far as he knows this is just a normal, fun little family vacation with his parents and favourite aunts and uncle,—
...not an escape from the inevitable collapse of society!
Funny, I was led to believe that too

Hey, it's not like we can't treat this as a normal vacation and let Elmo and Tuuli do their crazy thing on the side as usual
Just wear ear plugs if they get too annoying
And at least we have the option to stay here longer if it turns out we need to
Don't be a grump!
Hrmph!
As long as you take me back next week as we agreed
How about a compromise? Next week we'll call Helmi and ask if you'll be needed at work. If she does we'll take you back. If she doesn't you stay for one more week
But if people suddenly start dropping dead like flies you'll stay here with us until we think it's safe to return
Deal?
Hmh.
And if it turns out it's baby-time before that we can just do a traditional sauna delivery
No? Nono of course not how silly of me! I promise we'll go to a hospital! I'm sure it'll be safe by then.
Deal?
..Deal.

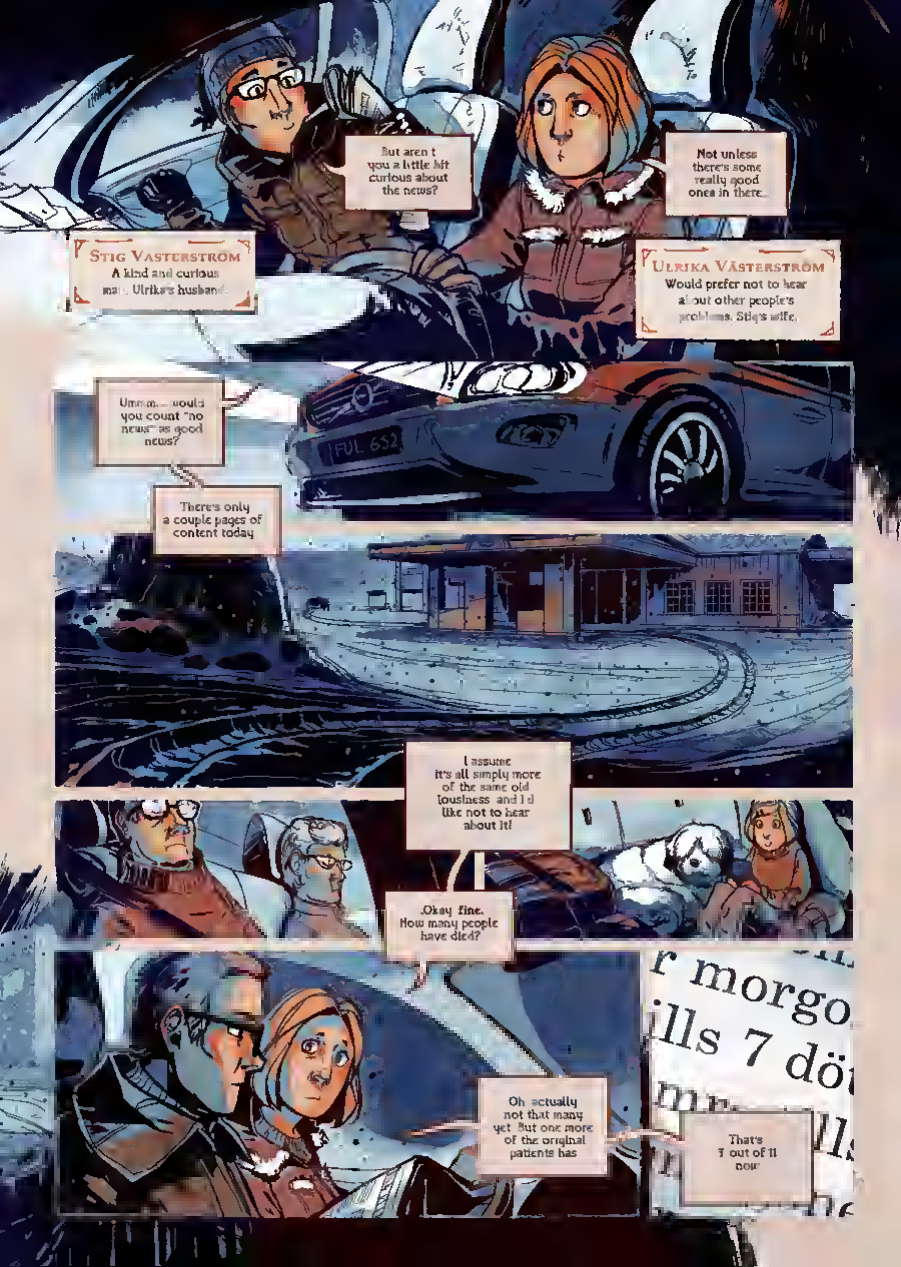
But could you please give me the same treatment you give your kid and not discuss anything doomsday-ish around me?
Of course we can, sweetie
I'll do you one better! How about we all abstain from even checking up on the news for a few days?
That could be fun
...confirmed that two of the original patients did die earlier today
The remaining nine patients are comatose, and not in decent condition as previously claimed. Now entering their fourth week of infection...
...none of the patients have responded significantly to any treatment
Locations with a significant percentage of the population diagnosed with the rash illness will be put under martial law both to prepare for the rapid degeneration of health expected in the next couple of weeks
...and to then maintain at least a rudimentary level of health care during the wait for a cure
THUD!
International travel will be suspended today, but unfortunately the spread has already reached.
You know you'll probably die if you have the rash illness
God, please let me have that...


Hey buddy, could you close the doors?
No can't dying
Aino how okay would you be with making your husband sleep outside in a tent? I don't want him to puke on the carpet
Not very okay
If you think he's bad now just wait until he catches a cold and gets sick for real

Year 0 • Day 9
SWEDEN
Hellooo?!
There's clearly no one here honey

At least they didn t turn this thing off
I ll go check out the junk in the back real quick if I may?
As long as you don t wander off anywhere
Be back in five minutes okay?
Yup
VARUMOTTAGN

I sure hope it was worth the six minutes you wasted! Good grief. Speed up!
Found my newspaper!


But aren't you a little bit curious about the news?
Not unless there's some really good ones in there...
Stig Vasterstrom
A kind and curious man. Ulrika's husband.
Ulrika Västerström
Would prefer not to hear about other people's problems. Stig's wife.
FUL 652
Umm... would you count "no news" as good news?
There's only a couple pages of content today
I assume it's all simply more of the same old lousiness and I'd like not to hear about it!
...Okay fine. How many people have died?
Oh actually not that many yet. But one more of the original patients has
That's 7 out of 11 now

Not much else is new, some lists of traffic bans and quarantined areas around the world...
then the same old statements and forecasts as before
...aaand the rest of the pages...
are blank
Hm...I suppose they ran out of reporters
You've got to admire whoever show up at work to put even this much together. And the delivery man! They deserve a raise after all this is over
Are you done reading that soon?
Oy!

Ulf Vasterstrom
Stig's father. Spends his pension betting on sports... Knows nothing about sports
Sports section, please!
Later dad! Sit back down in your seat
I need to find out how Tuesdays game went already!
The paper said that the game was cancelled and you got your money back.
What? Why?! Let me see that!
No!
You're lying! Why would you lie? They lost, didn't they!?
Be a dear and get me the crosswords
Elvira Vasterstrom
Stig's mother. Would also like to bet on sports, but always forgets to
You can both have the paper once we're at the cabin!
Until then it's mine
Horrible child
If I can't have the crosswords at least find us a rest stop! I need to pee.
Bosse needs to pee, too!
Njurul

Urrooww!
Mia Vasterström
Ulrika and Stig's kid.
He's pee-dancing already!
We're not stopping anymore...
That's IT! We've been letting you two order us around the whole week! It's as if we've been kept prisoners in our own home! This ends now!
I didn't even want to go to the cabin! I wanted to go to the grocery store!
This is a revolt! We demand newspapers! And warm meals!
And pee breaks!
Please control your parents!
They'll tire themselves out in a moment
Down with the dictator!
SLAP!
MOOOM! DAAAD! Bosse just peed!
Mrraoow!!!
Ouuuww!
Stop the car!
Let us out now!

SCRRK!
THUNK!
Make them be quiet...or I will have an aneurysm
Yup.
Everyone in the back seat listen UP!

We'll be at the cabin in less than an hour, and anyone who misbehaves before that will be left by the side of the road!
There will be no yelling, no complaining, and no revolting until we're there!
Is that clear?!
Yes, whatever. Sheesh.
...Yes, dad.
Thank you, sweetie.
And no angry whispering!
Should we switch again? I wouldn't mind driving the rest of the way.
No, it's okay.
Hey...cheer up. Things will shape up eventually.
You'll see.
P-Pat

Pat Pat
Okay honey
If you say so
Year 0 | Day 9
Year 0, Day 10

Year 0, Day 12
år 0
Dag
13
År
0
Dag
15
Vuosi 0 • 20. päivä

Ár: 0 Dag: 29
Ár: 0, Dag 34
38. PÄIVÄ, VUO
Ár: 00 • Dagur: 40

YEAR 0 ~ MONTH 3
Landhelgisgæslan Icelandic coast guard
VARÐSKIPIÐ
V/S ÞÓR
Ganghraði ... 19,5 hnútar
Áhöfn/björgunarbúnaður 35/48
Björgunarbátar 6x Víkingur 25 manna
MOB bátur
10 m
16 m
94.80 m
Beep!
Um o-okay
I think we found it.

At least it's not a whale this time admiral
Hrrmh, we'll see..
Hrrmh yes, not a whale Can I get a confirmation on this?
Its size matches the scout report we got from M/S Baldur
The velocity seems to be the same too
I think it's safe to say it's our target sir
Small approaching vessel confirmed admiral.

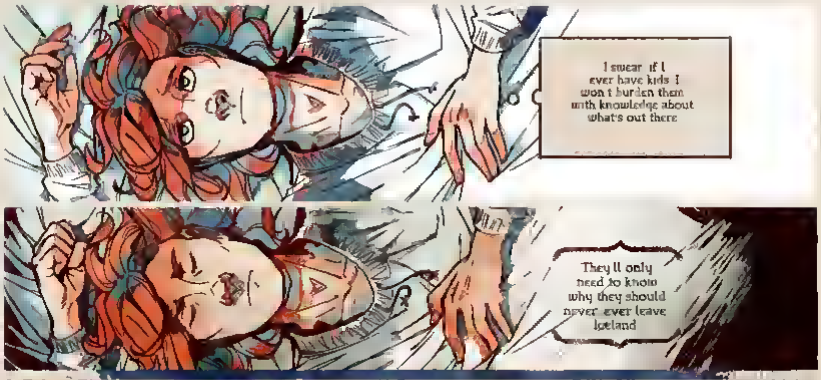
Definitely foreign.
Hrrmh. Fire off a signal just to make sure.
BLINK
BLINK BLINK
No no response
Only waving
Well, that's a pity. Lieutenant Ólafur, take action.
Yes, sir!
...still just waving...
RRRRRRR
RRRRRR

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
U-umm okay
all clear
All right then back to patrol duty. Check with V/S Ægir and Týr where were needed
Right away sir

And keep an eye out for those whales!
Kristján
Hm?
Take over my station for a moment!
I don t-
Just stare at the screen and yell if something pops up, it's easy
Wait! Pétur!
I need to talk to you!
Yes?
I, uh...
...I'd like to go home now, please.
Come on. Not this again.

Arni Reynisson
Thought working for the coast guard would be fun.
But I'm really really serious this time!
You're just upset again because it's late, as usual. You'll feel better tomorrow, trust me
No, I won't!
I can't even sleep anymore! I keep having horrible dreams and once I wake up it's another horrible day!
I even wrote you a letter earlier, to show you that I'm not just having an emotional moment.
"Dear Peturl How are you? I am fine. Except lately I've been feeling like..."
Thanks, I got it
"Sigh" Follow me. I'll have them prepare you for quarantining
Thank you so much!

Two weeks
Thank you. I really appreciate it.
Finally I can leave this behind me!
Maybe I'll move to a tiny town somewhere And figure out how to raise sheep
It can't be that hard
Then I can be like everyone else and just try to forget about the outside world
Like it never even existed.



And that we should keep to ourselves and leave the world be. Because if we do, perhaps we will be spared. Then maybe one day

all

will

be

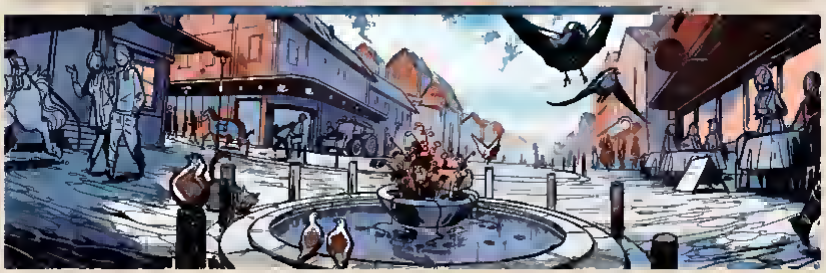
well

again.

SCREEEEH!!!

Year 90

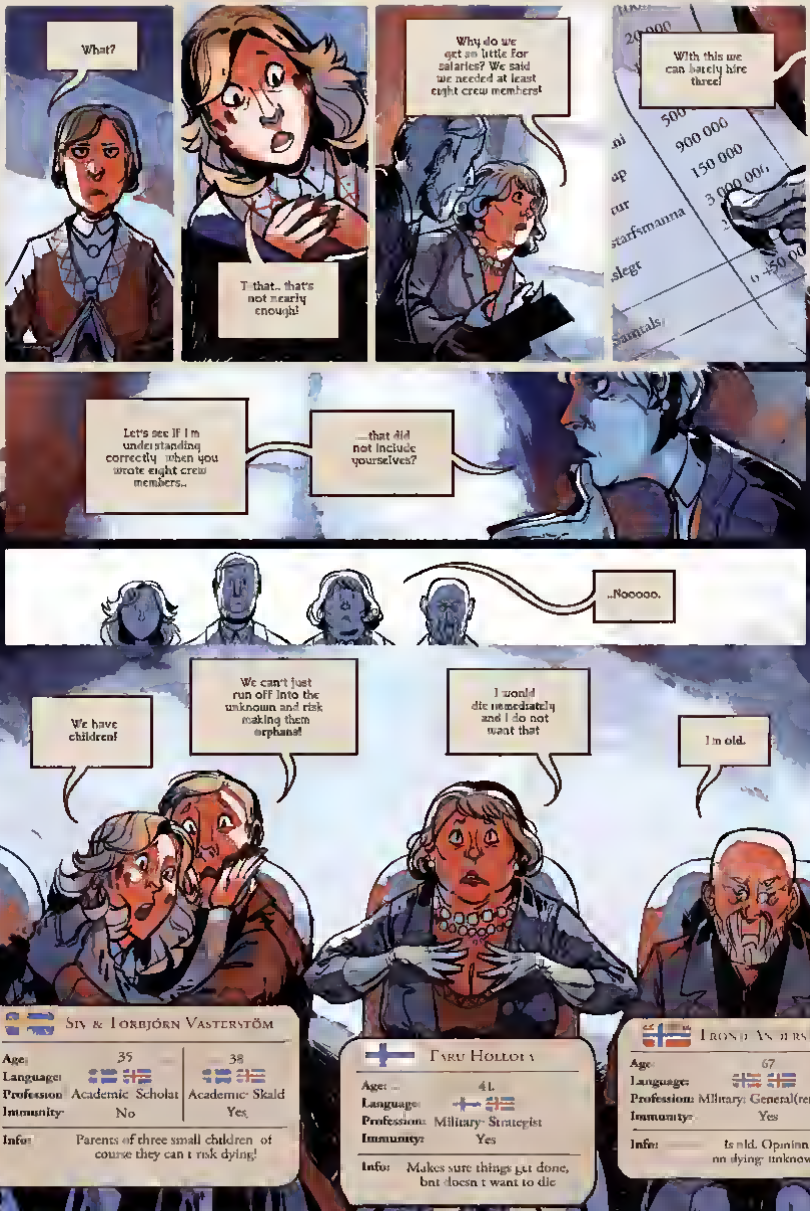
ICELAND
Reykjavík
Capital of the known world
Year 90
Population 41 750
Immunity rate 11%



Wait.. is there a hole in your pants?!
Hmm? I don't think so no
It's right there!
Oh no! Where did that come from?!
What do we do?!
Damn it people! I told you to dress respectably!
I hate all of you
It can still be fixed. Here color his knee with this ink.
It'll blend in with his pants
I'm so terribly sorry everyone!
Please stop sweating!
DONG
DONG
splurt

2 o clock appointment?
Appointment?
We're here to complain about the loose cobblestone in front of your building!
Actually that would be us
Likewise.
Nice to meet you
Hey! Don t you dare ignore us young lady! What about the cobblestone?!
Uhh... try the office down the hall. I don't handle such matters
Old people
Come on in
Please have a seat
Well my good folks- I believe it is your lucky day today

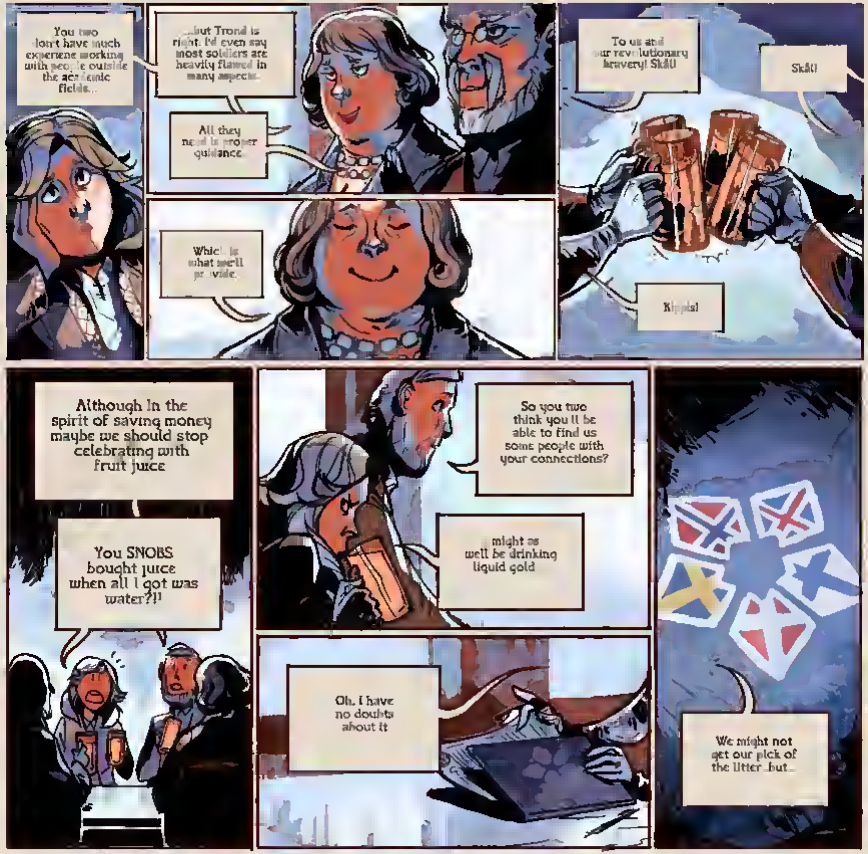
The Nordic council of History and Rediscovery reviewed your application to fund a research mission into the silent world
We've made a fair assessment of the amount you'll need based on the submitted report.
And while this is, of course a very controversial matter...and something many believe should not be supported financially...
we recognize that perhaps the time to start expanding the peripheries of our knowledge has come.
Here is your budget
Now go, my brave friends, and lift the ancient veil of fear
Oooh!
...Ooo...
Is something amiss?
Um yes kind of The money
Could we please have some more of it?


What?
That.. that's not nearly enough!
Why do we get so little for salaries? We said we needed at least eight crew members!
With this we can barely hire three!
900 000
150 000
starfsmanna
Let's see if I'm understanding correctly - when you wrote eight crew members..
..that did not include yourselves?
..Nooooo.
We have children!
We can't just run off into the unknown and risk making them orphans!
I would die immediately and I do not want that
I'm old.
Siv & Torbjörn Vasterstöm
Age: 35 38
Language:
Profession: Academic Scholar Academic Skald
Immunity: No Yes
Info: Parents of three small children of course they can't risk dying!
Taru Holloa
Age: 41
Language:
Profession: Military Strategist
Immunity: Yes
Info: Makes sure things get done, but doesn't want to die
Trond Andersen
Age: 67
Language:
Profession: Military General(retired)
Immunity: Yes
Info: is old. Opinion on dying: unknown

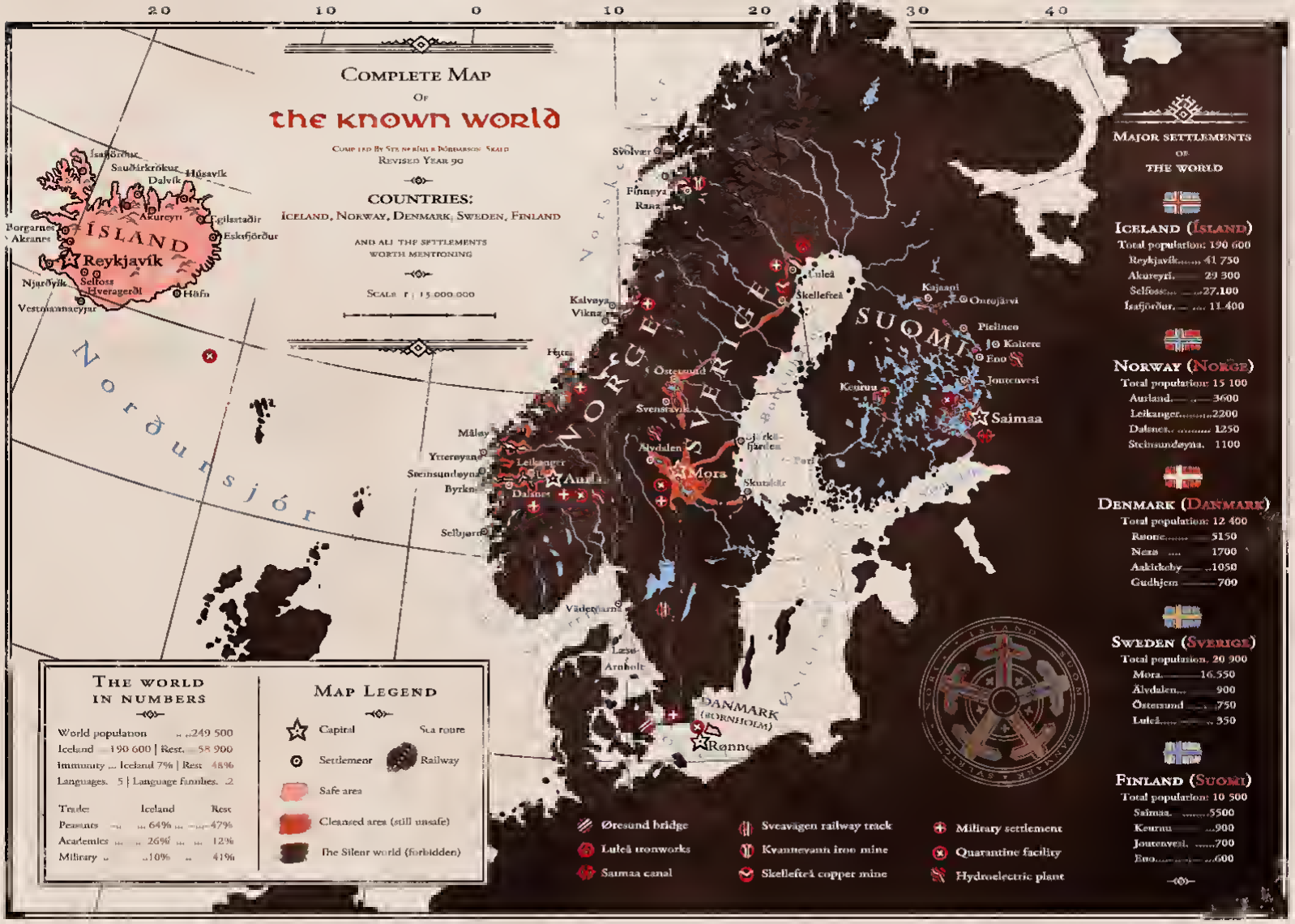
Um—I don t suppose we could submit a revised application to be re-reviewed? Maybe get a little more?
Look.
I ll be blunt with you
The one positive aspect of your silly expedition was your refreshingly low budget
Otherwise the consensus was that it serves no national good and carries a substantial risk of complete failure
Your application passed with a single vote and I believe one of my colleagues only voted "yes" because he lost his glasses and didn t know what he was voting for
So you can re-apply for more funds, but I highly doubt you would even be offered this much.
Take it or leave it.
Ummm..
We ll take it!
I promise we ll make this expedition successful and well worth your money!
I hope you will
And we expect proper documentation!
Yes ma'am! Thank you very much ma'am!
I can t believe it! Someone finally gave us money to do this!
Shush! Keep acting dignified until we re outside!

Wooo!
We're the best and the bravest!
Time to make some history!
Stop being happy about this! We didn't get nearly enough to do anything properly!
This'll be a tragic failure!
Honey, it'll be okay-
It's not like we really need everything on the list-
Let's trim some fat!
See? We simply have to readjust a bit.
First of all, a map reader is a completely pointless position And we definitely don't need both a night scout and a day scout
I'm sure we can find a much more affordable vehicle and...
Get rid of the cat too, it's basically just yet another scout
Sweetie, you've got a little bit of ink right here.
So do you!
... and that would cut the food budget in half!
I'm sure they'll be okay with hunting a bit.
What else?
I think we've already removed everything our crew will need to survive

So we're down to five crew members and there's still not enough for proper salaries. No one will want to work for us.
Unless they're idiots
We can not hire idiots!
Of course not that's why I'm upset!
Stop badmouthing idiots you spoiled brats! Some of the most competent soldiers that I've had the privilege to work with were idiots
As long as they know their craft they can be excellent loyal employees
I suppose
Another demographic we should look into is desperate people like the recently fired ones.
And those who hate their current employers or co-workers with a burning passion
Oh yes I'm sure the pool of people who would be grateful to be offered a job like this is deep enough for our needs.
Oooh how about people who are extremely bored with their lives? I know places where I can find people like that.
Excellent! See Taru understands what I'm trying to say.
Our crew is going to be just a bunch of weirdos isn't it?
Hey don't look at it from that angle!


You two don't have much experience working with people outside the agriculture fields...
...but Tronal is right. I'd even say most soldiers are heavily flawed in many aspects.
All they need is proper guidance.
Which is what we'll be while.
To us and our revolutionary bravery! Skål!
Skål!
Kippis!
Although in the spirit of saving money maybe we should stop celebrating with fruit juice
You SNOBS bought juice when all I got was water?!!
So you two think you'll be able to find us some people with your connections?
...might as well be drinking liquid gold
Oh, I have no doubts about it
We might not get our pick of the litter...but...

once winter comes we'll be ready.


Complete Map
Of
the known world
Compiled By Sturla Björnsson Skald
Revised Year 90
COUNTRIES:
Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland
and all the settlements
worth mentioning
Scale 1 | 15.000.000
Major settlements
of
the world
Iceland (Ísland)
Total population: 190 600
Reykjavík..... 41 750
Akureyri..... 29 300
Selfoss..... 27.100
Ísafjörður..... 11.400
Norway (Norge)
Total population: 15 100
Aurland..... 3600
Leikanger..... 2200
Dalene..... 1250
Steinsundøyna. 1100
Denmark (Danmark)
Total population: 12 400
Rønne..... 5150
Nexø..... 1700
Aakirkeby..... 1050
Gudhjem..... 700
Sweden (Sverige)
Total population. 20 900
Mora..... 16.550
Älvdalen..... 900
Östersund..... 750
Luleå..... 350
Finland (Suomi)
Total population: 10 500
Saimaa..... 5500
Keuruu..... 900
Joutenvesi..... 700
Eno..... 600
The world
in numbers
World population ..249 500
Iceland 190 600 | Rest 58 900
Immunity Iceland 7% | Rest 48%
Languages 5 | Language families 2
Trade Iceland Rest
Peasants 64% 47%
Academics 26% 12%
Military 10% 41%
Map Legend
Capital
Sea route
Settlement
Railway
Safe area
Cleansed area (still unsafe)
The Silent world (forbidden)
Øresund bridge
Luleå ironworks
Saimaa canal
Sveavägen railway track
Kvannevann iron mine
Skellefteå copper mine
Military settlement
Quarantine facility
Hydroelectric plant
ÍSLAND
Reykjavík
Ísafjörður
Sauðárkrókur
Húsavík
Dalvík
Akureyri
Egilsstaðir
Eskifjörður
Borgarnes
Akranes
Njarðvík
Selfoss
Hveragerði
Höfn
Vestmannaeyjar
Norðursjór
NORGE
SVERIGE
SUOMI
DANMARK
(BORNHOLM)
Rønne
Svolvær
Finnsnes
Rana
Kalvøya
Vikna
Hell
Östersund
Svenstavik
Mårøy
Ytterøyan
Leikanger
Steinsundøyna
Byrkn
Aurla
Dalane
Selbjørn
Älvdalen
Mora
Skutskär
Luleå
Skellefteå
Kajaani
Oulujärvi
Pielinen
Kaltere
Eno
Joutenvesi
Keuruu
Saimaa
Vänern
Lesø
Arnholt
Finnmyra
Rana

The

Many Different Nationalities

of

the World

Truly the Gods of the north sacrificed a lot to ensure our survival, while others perished or succumbed to a fate far worse than death

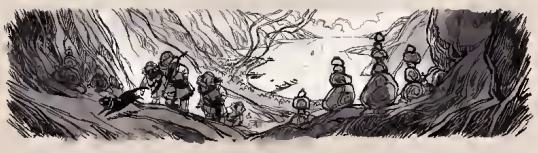
–Haraldur Sigurðsson, Skald

The Icelanders

About the people who were protected by the Gods

As the most populous, fortunate and advanced people of the world, **the Icelanders have kept the technology of the old world alive,** while rejecting all of the history tied to it. They were spared from the great illness by their ancient Gods, whom they now put their faith into

The Icelanders do not have the high level of immunity that the people of the other nations do, but it has risen during the past decades thanks to the *Dagrenning* genetic program



The Norwegians

About the rulers of the sea and slayers of giants

The seafarers from the fjords were the first ones to establish contact with the Icelanders once the isolation policy was abolished. **The Norwegians hunt sea beasts by ship, and on land they fight fiercely against the trolls and giants** that stray too close to their settlements

The Norwegians are generally not very well educated, but are always delightful company, and as the closest of kin to the Icelanders they have also returned to the embrace of the ancient Gods.

The Danes

About the hoarders of old lore and their great misfortunes

Living on the tiny island of Bornholm, the Danes have made many tragic attempts to reclaim the lands they once lived on. After their recklessness finally caused an outbreak of the Illness on their island, claiming many souls, the Danes grew subdued. Yet they clearly still long for their old home

Their unhealthy fixation with the Silent world is evident by **their obsessive hoarding and studying of old documents.** Unfortunately the Danes do not know of the kindness of the Gods, and refuse to acknowledge them

The Swedes

About their thriving culture and the cleansing of the Silent lands

The prosperous people of the Valleys, the Swedes, have always had fortune on their side. Arrogantly they do not credit this to the Gods, but rather praise themselves and their prodigy. And why would they not? **The level of technology, culture and safety present in the capital of Sweden, Mora, is unheard of outside of Iceland.**

The Swedes are eagerly cleansing the Silent lands with fire, steadily widening the reach around their settlements each passing year

The Finns

About the distant forest people, their odd language and many mages

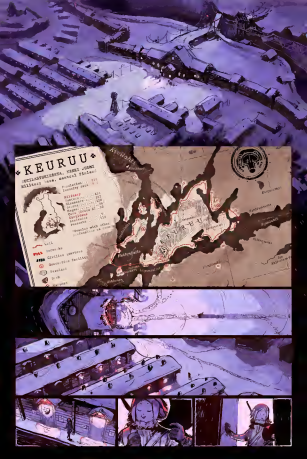
The Finns are the least advanced people in the world, they're generally very poorly educated and their odd sounding language is not related to the Norse ones. Most of them live on the innumerable islands of lake Saimaa, and there is only one slightly advanced settlement, the small military base of Kuurus

While the Finns **are not too bright, they have many mages in their midst** with the ability to see and control the spirits of our world. The Finns follow their own archaic forest Gods

The
First Rule

for survival outside the safe areas

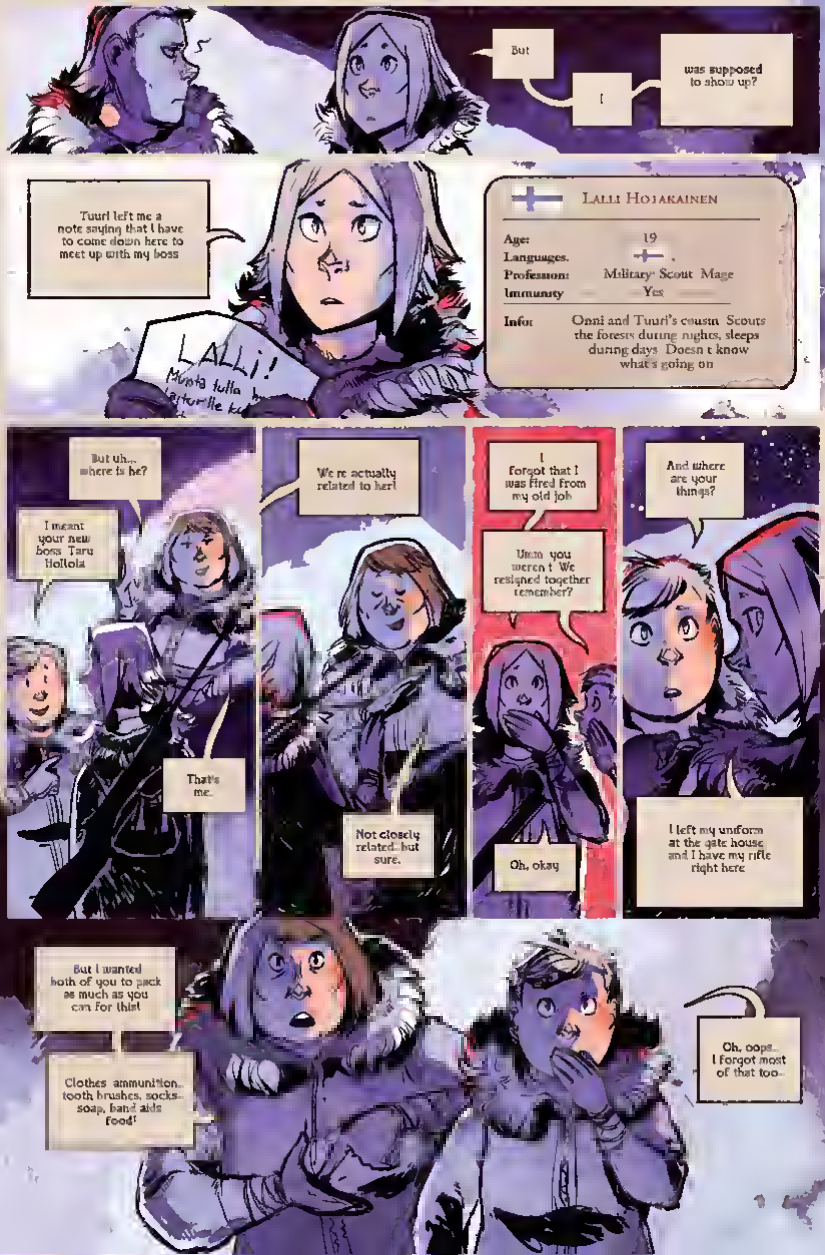
If you come across
a Beast, a Troll or a Giant
do not run or call for help
but stand still and stay silent.
It might go away.


KEURUU
SOTILASTUKIKOHTA, KESKI-SUOMI
Military base, central Finland
Population
Immunity rate
Military
Hunters 451
Cleansers 182
Scouts 120
Mages 96
Cats (Grade A) 80
Civilians
Academics
Peasants 112
*Overlap with other professions is common
Wall
Barracks
Civilian quarters
Quarantine facility
Farmland
Dock
Outpost
KEURUU

Zzzz.
Pssst!
Psst!
Where is he? He was supposed to be here already!
Well his shift should have ended half past six. And he won't be late for another five minutes!
I bet he forgot and went to bed. You might as well leave without him
Or better yet forget about this and don't leave at all!

Well I thought that might happen so I left a note on his door
Maybe I should run up and try to find him, just in case.
Please do Hopefully you'll slip and break your neck
What's with the hostility?! I offered you a job, and you turned it down!
...you decided to take my family instead?
And I'd have to be an idiot to even consider that job offer!
Onni Hotakainen
Age: 27
Languages:
Profession: Military: Mage
Immunity: No
Info: Hasn't been outside the Keuruu walls in 11 years, and doesn't intend to change that now.
Not that I'm calling you an idiot!
I would never!
It's okay
But please don't make it sound like Taru is tricking me into this or something
I want to go
Tuuri Hotakainen
Age: 21
Languages:
Profession: Academic: Skal... Mechanic
Immunity: No
Info: Onni's sister. Hasn't been outside the Keuruu walls in 11 years, but would really like to change that now.

Sigh I just don't understand why. There's literally nothing worth seeing or experiencing outside.
Literally everything worth seeing and experiencing is outside Ostoil
Oh good grief again?!
Get on the boat already!
Would you stop rushing us already?! We have over four minutes left!
Yes. Until the boat leaves!
You're supposed to be on board by then- not dancing around on the pier... you monkey!
I'm going to stand right here and make sure that you can't leave without us!
And I'm going to start the boat regardless and you'll fall into the lake!
Three minutes!
...Hitto!
Lalil will show up, I promise!
Hello...
You just had to show up, didn't you?!


But
I
was supposed to show up?
Tuuri left me a note saying that I have to come down here to meet up with my boss
LALLI!
Lalli Hotakainen
Age: 19
Languages:
Profession: Military Scout Mage
Immunity Yes
Info: Onni and Tuuri's cousin Scouts the forests during nights, sleeps during days Doesn't know what's going on
But uh... where is he?
I meant your new boss Taru Hellola
That's me.
We're actually related to her!
Not closely related- but sure.
I forgot that I was fired from my old job
Umm you weren't We resigned together remember?
Oh, okay
And where are your things?
I left my uniform at the gate house and I have my rifle right here
But I wanted both of you to pack as much as you can for this!
Clothes ammunition.. tooth brushes, socks.. soap, band aids food!
Oh, oops.. I forgot most of that too..

Well okay then!
As they themselves so clearly demonstrated, these are not adults suitable to leave home
We're all better off if you just pick up a couple of Swedish bums somewhere on your way instead, and leave us alone
Nonsense! They're both great at their jobs which is what counts
No! They're too stupid to make important life decisions on their own
KLAK!
RRR
VRRRR
An I we're already providing them with uniforms, I'm sure we can find some tooth brushes too. They can have mine.
Hey..
And deep down they don't even want to go
!
!
Hurry hurry! I can not miss this opportunity!
B-but...
Don't forget your bag! At least there's something in there!

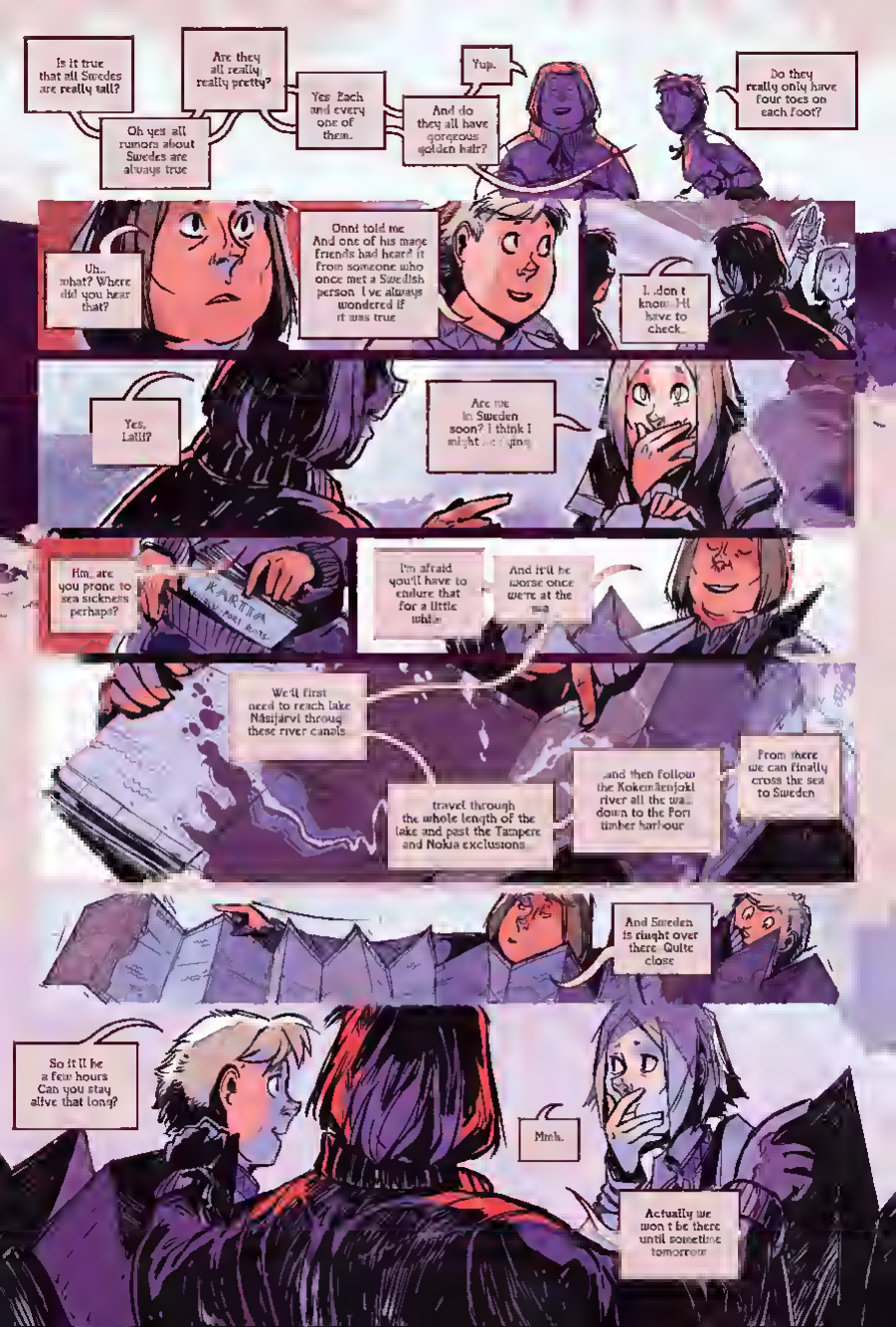
I'm so so so so sorry for us being late. This will never happen again!
Hmh.
Ohhh! Please come with us! I don't want you to be all alone!
Please!?
Come on now! I can still pull you up! And we can give you a less dangerous job if you're scared!
I...
...can't.
Well... I guess I'll see you in spring then.
Bye?

You people need to go inside now
Oh of course
NO!
I'm not going inside before I've seen the outside!
Please? Just for a second?
Look it's for your own protection. You're not even armed.
Come on it's her first time going outside of Keuruu since she was a little kid
She'll be happy with just seeing us go through the gate I think we can agree that it's not exactly dangerous.
Fine.
But only through the gate.
And I'm not responsible for anything bad happening.

Oh my Gods I can't believe I'm finally outside!
It looks real!
...meeeeehh.
You'll be able to see things once the sun is up.
I wanted to see things now!
Seriously, now you people have to go inside!
Right away!
Don't be sad, there's nothing interesting to see out here anyway. It's just a bit of open area and then trees for ever and ever
That's what I wanted to see stupid!
It's cool to be on the boat though.
That's the spirit!
And your cousin is right in a way.
The forest is absolutely unremarkable compared to everything you two will get to see in the next few months.

You two can go sit down. I'll grab us some breakfast
Get me a lot of something that's not gross!
There's always only one thing to choose from.
But sure. I'll get a lot of it. It's free.
I wish I could understand what is happening right now
How can you still be confused?
We've talked about this over and over again since
Three months ago
You won't believe it! We just got the most exciting job opportunity ever! Let's discuss this at length before you go to bed
Okay.
One month ago
Only one month left until me and Lalli head out and I see the world!
I do not approve! Neither of you will be leaving!
...zZz okay zZz....
Twelve hours ago
Um... you're still going out to work tonight?
Remember that we'll meet our boss in the morning and then take the boat to Sweden.
Okay?

Oh... you were serious about all that?
I thought it was one of those weird jokes you sometimes tell me that I don't really understand
I...don't tell weird jokes.
Come sit already or I'll eat all this disgusting stuff myself
I think Laiff might need you to recap some things about the job for him.
But right now we're on our way to Sweden for a quick stop, we'll pick up one of your fellow crew members there
And some
But of course I'm happy to answer any questions you might have right now! I'm sure you have a lot.
So, anything you'd like to know?
That's quite alright I'll explain the mission in more depth to the both of you later on anyway.
Can I go home?
Nope.
Okay...any more questions? About the job, maybe?
No.
Are you sure? You do know that Sweden is another country, right? You won't even understand what anyone there says.
Well I have questions!


Is it true that all Swedes are really tall?
Oh yes, all rumors about Swedes are always true
Are they all really really pretty?
Yes. Each and every one of them.
And do they all have gorgeous golden hair?
Yup.
Do they really only have four toes on each foot?
Uh... what? Where did you hear that?
Onni told me. And one of his mage friends had heard it from someone who once met a Swedish person. I've always wondered if it was true.
I... don't know... I'll have to check...
Yes, Lalli?
Are we in Sweden soon? I think I might be dying.
Hm... are you prone to sea sickness perhaps?
KARTTA
I'm afraid you'll have to endure that for a little while.
And it'll be worse once we're at the sea.
We'll first need to reach lake Näsijärvi through these river canals.
travel through the whole length of the lake and past the Tampere and Nokia exclusions...
...and then follow the Kokemäenjoki river all the way down to the Pori timber harbour.
From there we can finally cross the sea to Sweden.
And Sweden is right over there. Quite close.
So it'll be a few hours. Can you stay alive that long?
Mmh.
Actually we won't be there until sometime tomorrow.

The good news is that you won't die from being sea sick
Try to relax you might even get used to it.
Maybe I just need some sleep.
There's beds in the back that are meant for sleeping you know
Mmhm
Okay then
Don't mind him. He's never very good company
But I'm just so happy that we'll get to work with a beautiful golden haired and tall Swede!
Oh ehh I don't want to dampen your enthusiasm or anything...
... but the claim that all Swedes are tall might have been a slight exaggeration on my part
But they are pretty

KLAK

Hiljaa vesillä!
niin Vellamo suojelee
Is it dangerous outside now?
Hmm sure but it's not terribly dangerous. Safer than during the summer
I can't even remember the last time the window shields were needed.
Hiljaa vesillä!
niin Vellamo suojelee
The water and Vellamo will be able to protect us
The only significantly risky areas are the couple of seclusion we'll have to pass through...
...but the river is wide enough even there so it's really not that bad
And we're completely safe in here even if something happens

PSSSHH!!!
We should arrive at the harbour in Port before sunset
Over there you'll get to see something very worthwhile once the window shields are lifted
But we'll simply have to pass the time until then

Map of
the
Keuruu - Pori
Waterway
via
Ruovesi · Näsijärvi · Kokemäenjoki
Finland
Sweden
Norway
Keuruu
Pori
Saimaa
Mora
Keuruu
Ruovesi
Kuru
Jämsänkoski
Näsijärvi
Pyhäjärvi
Ikaalinen
Hämeenkyrö
Sweden
Pori
Kullaa
Kiikoinen
Sastamala
Nokia
Kokemäenjoki
Tampere
Äetsä
Kokemäki
Punkalaidun
About the waterway
The Keuruu-Pori waterway is the only connection between the military settlement of Keuruu and the rest of the world, and there are no settlements along the way. It is, however, safer than the Saimaa canal in eastern Finland.
Only a small portion of the shores have been cleansed so far, but progress is made each year.
All travellers of the waterway are guaranteed protection by Vellamo, the goddess of water.
Vellamo, veden emäntä
järven jalo pitäjä
anna aalto aidaksemme
syvä joki suojaksemme
Map Legend
Safe area
Cleansed area (still not safe)
Silent world (forbidden)
Exclusion (high danger area)

mages

Icelandic mage

Seiðkona (♀) - Seiðkarl (♂)

Icelandic mages are most known for their ability to receive prophetic visions and to cast protective spells Their spells can be used to aid in battle, to ward off malicious spirits and creatures or to simply ease the many hardships of everyday life

Icelandic mages are predominately female. The Icelanders receive their magical powers from the Gods Freyja and Óðinn

Finnish mage

Noita

Finnish mages possess the ability control elements of nature and to see and affect the actions of certain spirits Guiding the souls trapped in Trolls and Beasts to the afterlife is an important task of the Finnish mages

Most Finns have the ability to use spells to some degree, but only those with strong enough innate power to see spirits are officially regarded as mages

Icelandic magic

Spells

Icelandic spells are channelled through runes written, painted or carved in a ritualistic manner A rune of this nature is called a **galdrastafur.**

Vision

Summoning visions of the future is one of the central skills of an Icelandic mage These prophetic visions are mainly reached through dreams

Training

Icelandic mages are trained at the Academy of Seiður in Reykjavik Anyone who is discovered to have magical powers may enter a training program of their choosing

Finnish magic

Most Finnish spells are performed by the incantation of a command or plea to a God, a spirit or an element These spells are referred to as a **runo**

Being able to see the spirits of our world is the signifying mark of a Finn with enough power to be regarded as a mage

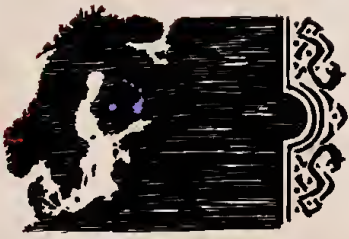
No official training institute for magic exists in Finland, instead mages are usually taught their craft by a more experienced colleague

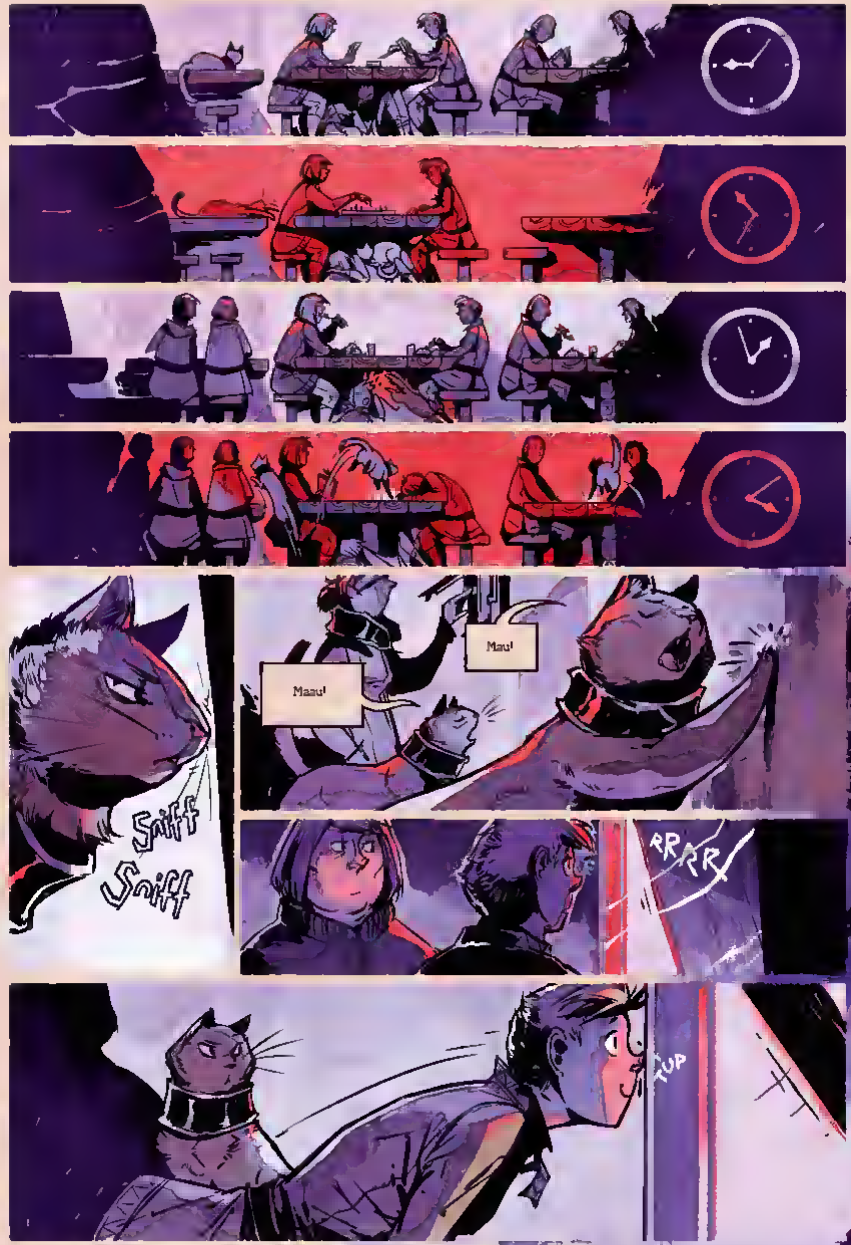
Regions inhabited by Mages

Icelandic mages

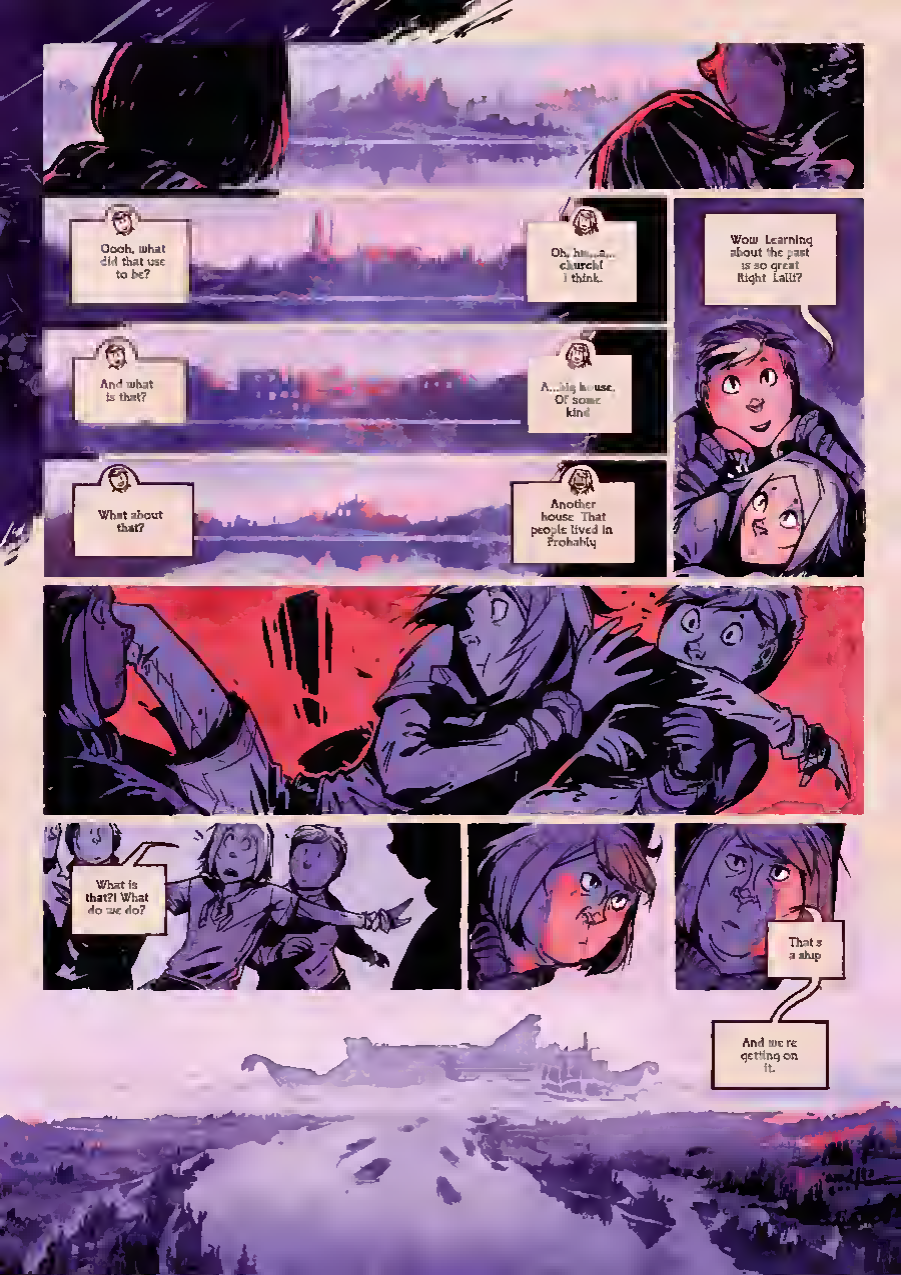
Finnish mages

***Note.** Norwegian mages are officially trained at the Academy of Seiður in Iceland, subsequently marked here as Icelandic mages*




Maau!
Maaa!
Sniff Sniff
RRRR
CLUP

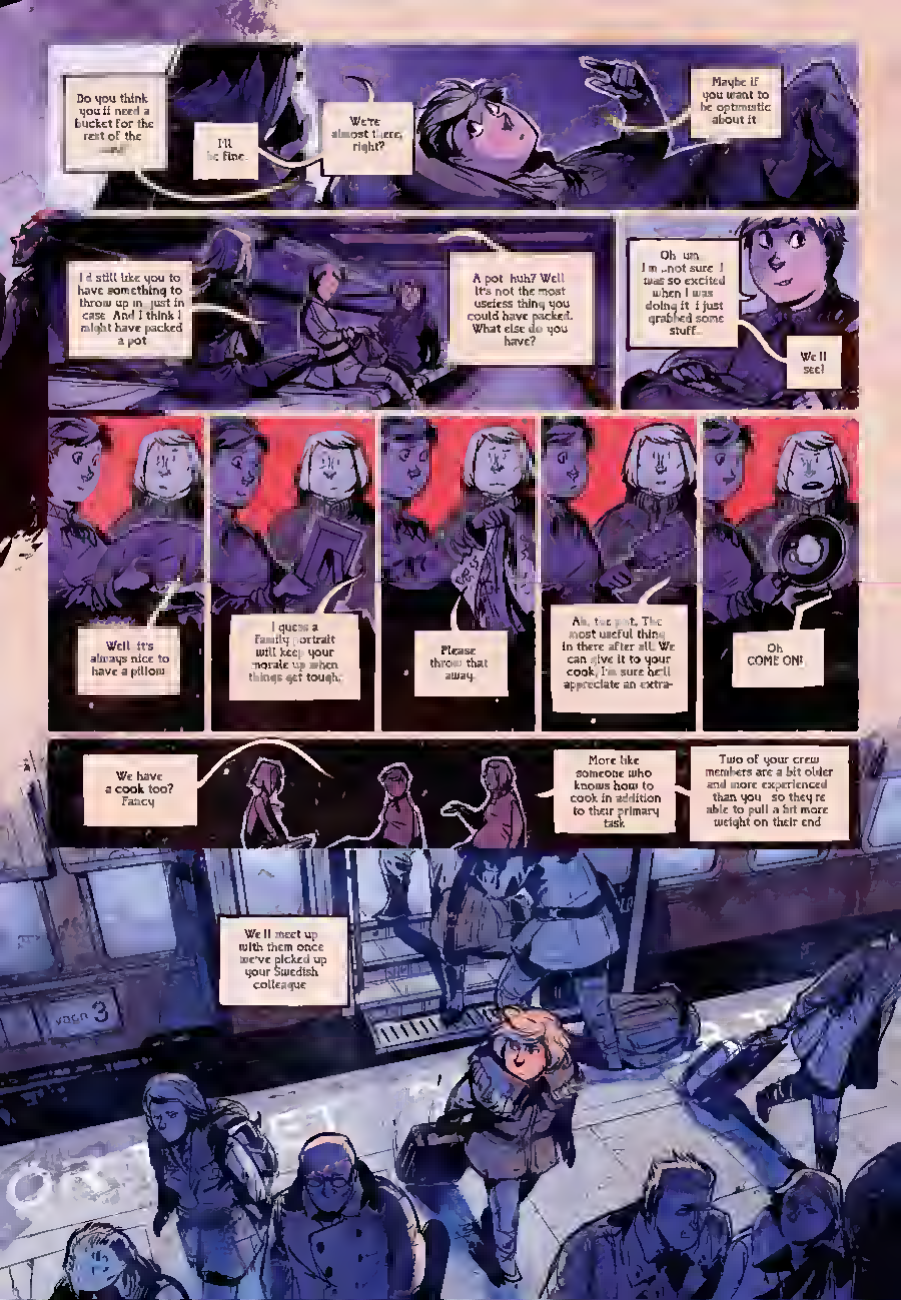
Lalll
Nnff!
Come look at the view! You can be sick and miserable later!
Are we in Sweden now?
Of course not
But we're almost at the sea! And there used to be a city right here!
Cities are bad
I said used to be!
Can you believe thousands of people once lived in this place?
Correction, tens of thousands. This was a really dangerous area to pass through in my youth, but the Swedes helped us burn it all down a couple of decades ago
Now it's safe enough for some light forestry as you can see
Does the timber go to Sweden too? I thought they had their own trees.
Oh no. It'll continue on to Denmark for cleaning, then it's sold to Iceland


Oooh, what did that use to be?
Oh, hm...a... church! I think.
Wow. Learning about the past is so great, Right Lali!?
And what is that?
A...big house. Of some kind
What about that?
Another house. That people lived in. Probably
What is that?! What do we do?
That's a ship
And we're getting on it.

VIKING LINE

So Sweden is...?
Over there somewhere
That's the sea and we're going to the other side of it
Oh.
I can see it.
I don't think we need the big boat to get over there
You might have extraordinary vision Lalli but you can't see Sweden from over here!
It's just some island.
KLAK
KLAK
RRRRRRRRRRRR
KATUNK

Aurm²
We don't get to go outside?
Not until we arrive. Come on now, time for bed
Already? But it's barely four in the afternoon... the sun hasn't set yet
The perfect time to reserve a bed
I've learned the hard way that if you don't pick one well before bedtime you'll end up with a top bunk and fall down during the night.
THUMP
I hereby declare this to be the best bed and therefore also mine.
All the beds are equally lousy. And I'd try to sleep a bit during the night. I'd prefer for both of you to be awake tomorrow


Do you think you'll need a bucket for the rest of the ...
I'll be fine.
We're almost there, right?
Maybe if you want to be optimistic about it
I'd still like you to have something to throw up in, just in case. And I think I might have packed a pot
A pot, huh? Well it's not the most useless thing you could have packed. What else do you have?
Oh, um... I'm ...not sure. I was so excited when I was doing it, I just grabbed some stuff...
We'll see!
Well, it's always nice to have a pillow
I guess a family portrait will keep your morale up when things get tough.
Please throw that away.
Ah, for you, The most useful thing in there after all. We can give it to your cook, I'm sure he'll appreciate an extra-
Oh COME ON!
We have a cook too? Fancy
More like someone who knows how to cook in addition to their primary task
Two of your crew members are a bit older and more experienced than you, so they're able to pull a bit more weight on their end
We'll meet up with them once we've picked up your Swedish colleague
vagn 3

JUNK!
VÄLKOMMEN TILL
BJÖRKÖFJÄRDEN
Hälsa/Vän
Danmark dagligen
Norge dagligen
Finland 1 /vecka
Hälsa/Vän
Danmark dagligen
Norge 3 ggr/vecka
Finland 2 ggr/månad
Till Åland
1 Tågstatto
2 Härbärge
3 Läger
4 Amtesal
Bryggan 3
Bryggan 2
Bryggan 1

KLONK!
KLONK!
ANKOMMANDE
BRYGGA 1 2
Excuse me! You two!
-?
Oh hi

You were supposed to come meet me at the train!

Now wait a second--

I had to drag this thing up a million stairs all by myself! Nearly threw my back out!

First of all there's an elevator for people such as yourself--

HISS ↓

DING!

Second of all you're not even supposed to be here until tomorrow!

But that's okay it's good to see you again

Yes yes hi

And what do you mean I'm not supposed to be here yet? I know you said that the Finns ship would depart today!

Um that doesn't mean they'll be here today. You do know that Finland is another country right?

Uhh yes, I've seen a map!

And I know very well that it's merely a short trip over here--

Emil Vasterström

Age: 19
Languages:
Profession: ~~Academic~~ Military-Cleanser
Immunity: Yes
Info: Torbjorn's Nephew. Joined the army for all the wrong reasons

See?! There's a map right there and it's clearly a very short distance! And ships are much faster than trains so they should be here today!

No, that's a long distance and ships are much slower than trains! They'll be here tomorrow!

It's adorable that you don't understand how distances on a map work.
But you're wrong as usual. You're welcome to consult the timetables if you're going to be stubborn and not believe us.
But then...
What do I do now? I don't have anywhere to sleep! I didn't reserve a room here, and I couldn't afford one anyway!
Neither can we, but that hasn't killed us yet
Last night we simply slept on the sofas.
No sleeping on the sofas!
Oh, excuse me, I meant... floor?
Floor is okay
VÄRT
We simply slept on the floor?
No we didn't! We secretly slept on the sofas anyway
Oh those sofas?
Those revolting ones that are certainly never cleaned and that people have been sitting on with their dirty behinds for years and years? Those sofas?!
I'm sure they're cleaned sometimes..
This is so beneath me!
We're poor now, there's no such thing as "beneath us" anymore. Just sleep on the revolting sofas, Emil.
The trick is to sleep with a book on your face and claim that you were reading it if the guard comes around.

You can have mine. I've finished pretending to read it anyway
To be honest you really should get used to not sleeping on a bed
To be even more honest you should be used to it already.
Fine!
I'll sleep on the vile piles of filth as you wish!
But you will wake me up well before the Finns arrive so that I can make myself presentable!
I will!
How humiliating!

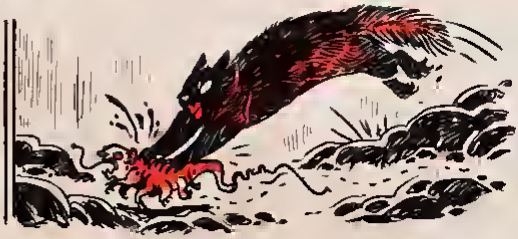
No sleeping on the sofas!
I'm reading a book
FLIP
Mrrmph!
Sigh It'll be fine, no panic! I merely need to make an impeccable first impression tomorrow things will start going well from there

the blessed FELINES

The fish, the birds, the bugs and the reptiles, these barely sentient creatures of our earth remained untroubled while all members of the mammal kind succumbed to the Illness All except the cat. Perhaps by chance, perhaps through fate, perhaps by means of a connection to the spirit world, these blessed animals never had to witness their kind ravaged and broken. Instead they became an invaluable ally of humankind against the horrors of the Silent World, providing comfort and protection.

All cats are able to sense the presence of evil, detecting any foul creatures long before ordinary humans know of the approaching danger. They seem to share this trait of vision with the mages, and the skill makes them excellent guards and scours.

Natural hunting instincts made the cats one of the most reliable defences against the vermin Beasts, arguably the most dangerous of the Beasts. While these small creatures can get through cracks in walls and sneak by guards into human territory, they will not get past the swift claws of the cat.



Grade C

The ordinary, untrained house- or farm cat. They possess their natural abilities and are able to provide some level of protection despite their lack of formal training. A common cat is better than no cat.

Grade B

Any cat between the ages of 0-5 may receive the rudimentary training to become a Grade B cat. A Grade B cat will know how to properly alert nearby humans about danger and how to safely dispose of killed vermin Beasts.

Grade A

Grade A cats are bred and trained for demanding military level tasks. These cats may serve as anything from specialized guards on farms to scours for the army. A Grade A cat may only be acquired from an official training facility.

Looking for a cat to protect your family? Come to your national training facility to find out exactly what kind of cat is best for you!

With this coupon you are entitled to a FREE evaluation of your feline needs!

VALUE 5000 KRONOR

Bring your own cat for evaluation, or see if one of ours will be the perfect one for you!

TILBOÐ FRÅ
NORRÆNA KATTAFELAGID

zzZzz
BANK!
Oh gee my sincerest apologies!
Uh Hello? You might want to change shirts
zZz
Let the poor lad sleep
You can apologize once he wakes up. He must be terribly tired to be sleeping this long
AAGH!
I'm reading- not sleeping!
It's just me You should get up
The Finns are here
Wha ?! But-I

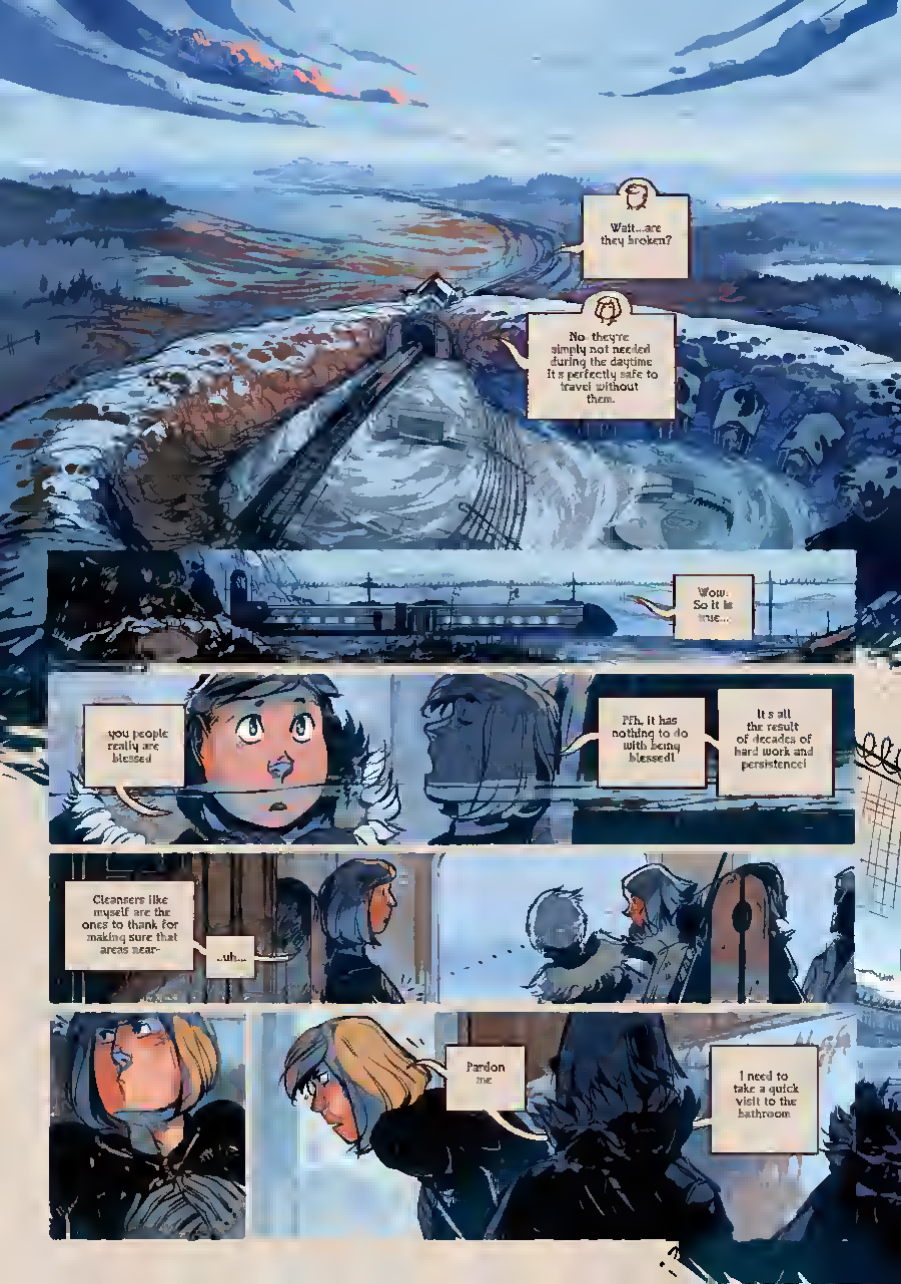
Helvetes javiar!
I told you to wake me up before they got here!
I'm...sorry. I didn't think you'd really sleep for this long.
I look like a mess! My first impression will be ruined!
I'll have to make the best of it

Hi! Hello! Hi! I'm Tunril!
Oh, hello! I'm
I know you're our cleanser, Emil!
It's so so SO nice to meet you and to finally be here hey nice hair! and that was Lalli my cousin he's not feeling well so don't mind him I'm sure you'll be great friends and us too because you seem like a nice person your job is so interesting you know
and I'm sorry I'm rambling I'll stop now!
Ah, it's quite alright I didn't expect you to speak Swedish, to be honest
Oh, almost no one does. I just studied a bit extra after learning Icelandic
They're such similar... languages you know?
Y-yeah, well not really
Torbjörn I need to check a thing with your feet
..Okay?
And hey, don't worry about that I spill food on myself all the time too
?
This can not be happening! The worst first impression possible! They both saw it they'll think of me as some sort of filthy pig for all eternity! I'll never regain their respect!
There, there you'll have time to make plenty of new impressions
Of course they could very well end up being lousy too
They're already whispering about me!
I'm sure they have more interesting things to whisper about than yourself...
He's a bit short for a Swede, don't you think?
Listen up everybody! We're on a rather tight schedule today, so we need to be on our way
We'll first make a stop at our headquarters in Mora and have you all briefed on your mission
Our ride to the southern border leaves in the evening
Va?
Oh, that's right. We have some language barriers here

If we need to speak Swedish I can translate for you Taru
Sure
I'll translate for Emil when we speak Icelandic
And I'll translate for Lalli whenever we speak any language
I don't wan to be the one always complaining but I think we're going to miss our train
Excuse me my good lady! Could you tell me when the morning train to Mora departs?
10.10
You people should be running and not standing there chattering like a pack of squirrels.
Run everyone!
Grab your bags!
RUN!
We're running now
Oh no oh no!
We won't make it in time!
What can we do?!
How about at least trying to get there!?
Lalli! Run and hold the train doors open For us!
What's a-?
The train is the long metal thing with a lot of windows, run there NOW!!!

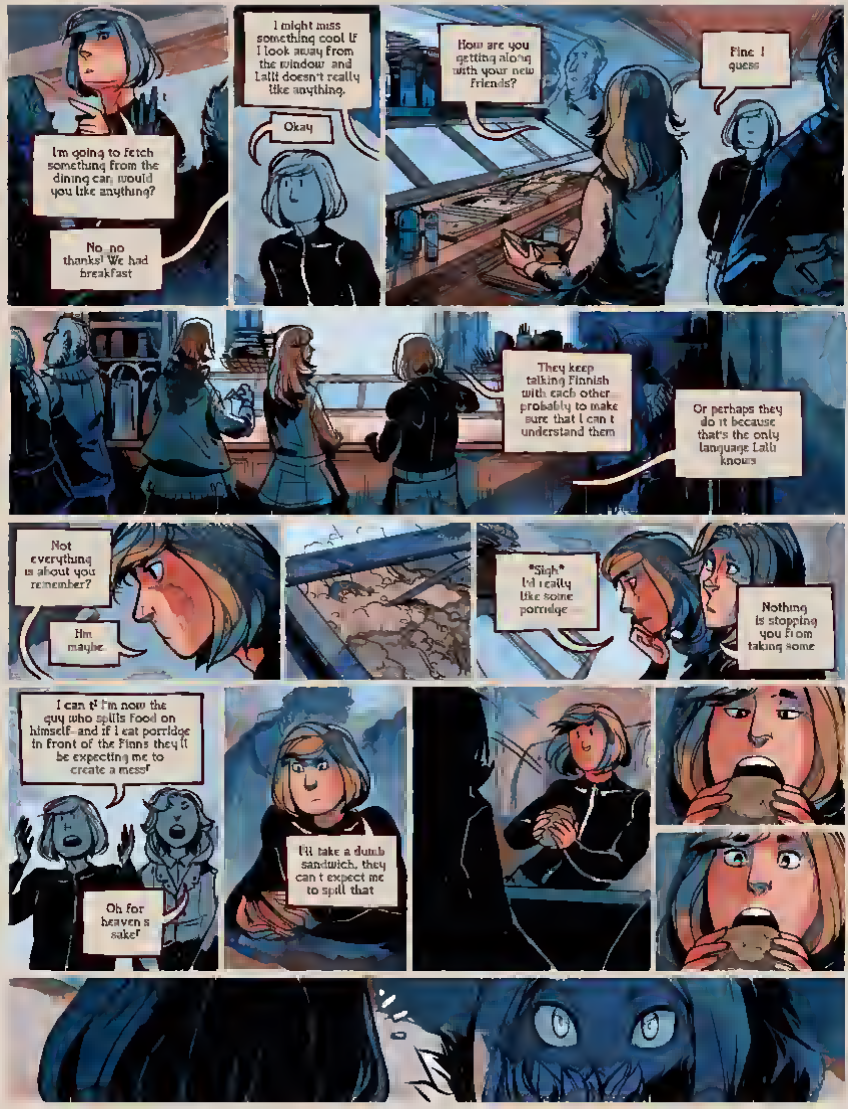
?
Åh.
Där blev du nästan försenad va?
Stig på!
Eh ?

I'm...never running...again I'm going to pass out and die
Not... me! I'm in great shape I could run for hours!
KRANK
Whoop!
These are ours
Window seat is mine!
Maybe I'll get a glimpse of a troll before the window shields are closed...
They mean t be closed


Wait...are they broken?
No, they're simply not needed during the daytime. It's perfectly safe to travel without them.
Wow. So it is true...
you people really are blessed
Pfh, it has nothing to do with being blessed!
It's all the result of decades of hard work and persistence!
Cleansers like myself are the ones to thank for making sure that areas near-
..uh...
Pardon me
I need to take a quick visit to the bathroom

How do you feel Lalli?
Is travelling on a train any better than the boat?
I'm fine
The train is okay
Why is the messy Swedish person sitting with us?
Um because we should get used to each other since he'll be working with us. Mostly with you
I don't work with other people.
Sometimes you have to do new things... you know
Don't you worry
You'll get to do your solo act most of the time. But I'm sure you'll also get along perfectly well as a duo
Hmh.
— as long as he isn't a weird person

–Tuolla on vuori, tuollakin on joku vuori
Hei mikä hassu kivi!
–Ja vielä toinen vuori
Lalli, tule jo katsomaan mitä kaikkea ulkona näkyy!
Mhfh


I'm going to fetch something from the dining car, would you like anything?
No, no thanks! We had breakfast
I might miss something cool if I look away from the window and Lalli doesn't really like anything.
Okay
How are you getting along with your new friends?
Fine. I guess
They keep talking Finnish with each other probably to make sure that I can't understand them
Or perhaps they do it because that's the only language Lalli knows
Not everything is about you remember?
Hm, maybe.
Sigh I'd really like some porridge
Nothing is stopping you from taking some
I can't! I'm now the guy who spills food on himself- and if I eat porridge in front of the Finns they'll be expecting me to create a mess!
Oh for heaven's sake!
I'll take a dumb sandwich, they can't expect me to spill that

He eats weird
Huh?
Stop staring at him!
How often have I told you that it creeps people out when you do that?!
I
..just wanted to see if he'd spill food on himself again.
I'm so sorry!
He spends very little time with people he doesn't know how to behave properly!
But I promise he's a very nice person and I'm sure you'll love working together once-
Nooo!! I missed it! Why did I look away from the window?!
Oh...well. It was dead anyway so not very interesting. That's an electric fence.
An electric fence?
Missed what?
There was a troll hanging on the fence!
That's right. Incinerates anything that tries to get through.
I wish we had something like that back home.
Oh. I forgot that you people don't even have electricity in your country.
Um we do have electricity..
You probably won't see another one. It's rare for them to get this close without being intercepted.
...just not a lot of it.

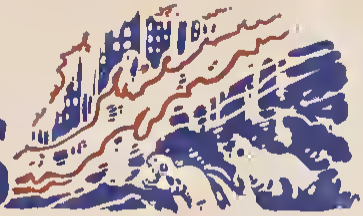
I might if I-m not distracted again! Now shhh!
My apologies for the distraction
munch
...I'll go get us some more of those
?
Ding dong!
Good day passengers!

We are arriving in Mora in 5 minutes! The weather is sunny with the temperature at a pleasant 2°C
Welcome back home local travellers
-and welcome to the capital of Scandinavia, visitors from abroad!
Please gather your belongings and prepare for the security check
Have an excellent day! ~Ding dong~
Alright youngsters- security check time!
Your clothes will also be put through a decontamination procedure so if you have anything of value in your pockets
No one has anything of value? Okay then
Arrival in 1 minute.
Isn't this the most excited you've ever been?!
Hmh

Do you want to make a difference?

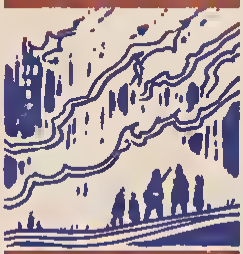
join the ranks of the

CLEANSERS



How does the cleanse cycle work?

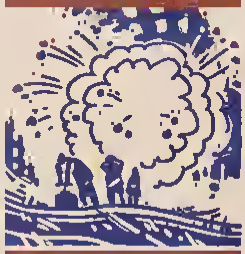
1



Fire

Late in the summer we scorch infected lands with an expertly controlled fire. We also make sure that no malicious creatures fleeing from the fire make it past our guard.

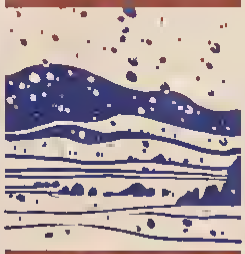
2



Demolition

Once the fires have set any remaining structures are demolished by our highly qualified explosives squads. This way we get rid of the remaining visible scars.

3



Exposure

We leave the newly desolated area to the harsh grip of winter. The cold will exterminate all the organisms still left in the ruins, as they never have been compromised.

4

Purge

In spring the cat squads can be sent in to locate and kill any threats that were able to survive underground or below the rubble. Now the cleanse cycle is complete and we can continue with the next area!

WHAT THEN?

What will happen once a cleanse cycle is completed? There are several courses of action that we may take, depending on the location and priority of each area and how much manpower can be spared.

If we leave the land be, forest will eventually grow back and healthy, surviving animals will move in and multiply. Beasts and trolls that wander in can be kept at bay by scouts

Sometimes it is important to maintain an open line of sight, such as around our vital train track. It is our ongoing duty to periodically clear out new vegetation in these areas.

Our ultimate goal is to provide permanent safe land by having the cleansed areas walled in and guarded. This is a slow process, but we never lose sight of this goal!

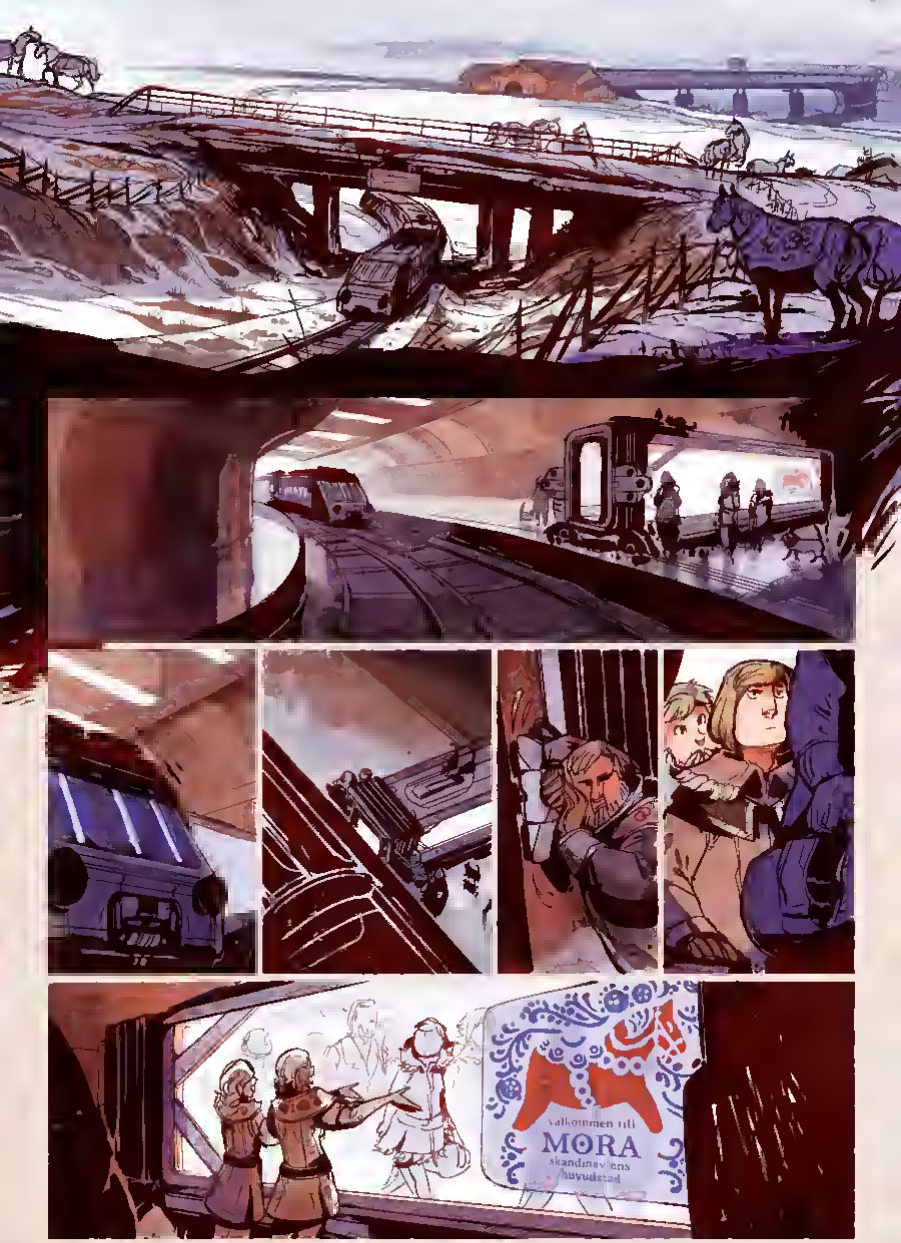
JOIN NOW!

You too can be part of this heroic and glorious process, making our world a better and safer place for everyone! Visit our main offices today and begin your new, more purposeful life!

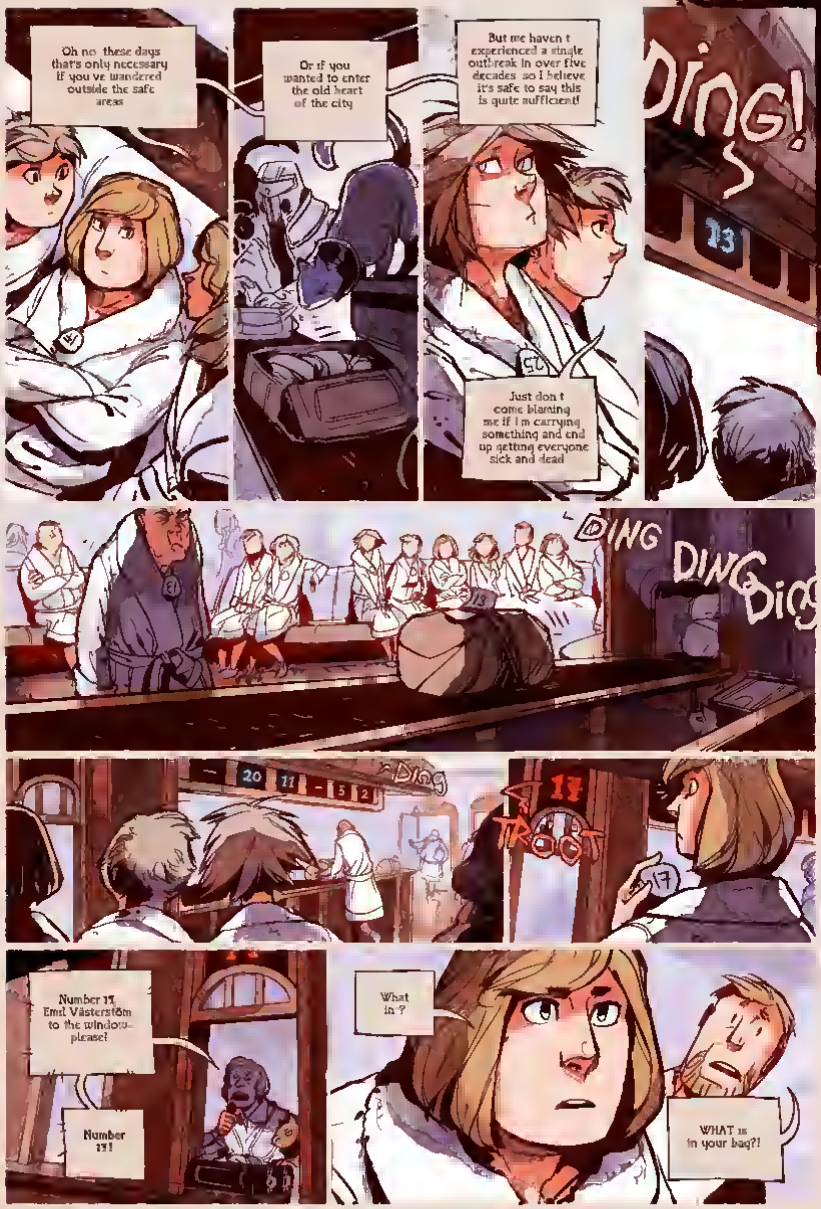
To apply visit our main offices
Arméns rekryteringscenter i Mora
Öppet: 8:00 16:00 Mån Fre
Vasagatan 41

*Joining voids any life insurance.
*Applicant must be at least 13 years of age to enroll in the training program.

2


välkommen till
MORA
skandinaviens
huvudstad

Um... are they really going to let me into the city this easily? They know I'm not immune, don't they?
Shouldn't I be quarantined first?

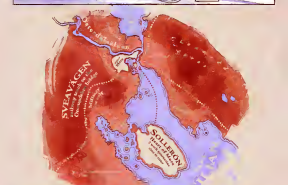

Oh no these days that's only necessary if you've wandered outside the safe areas
Or if you wanted to enter the old heart of the city
But we haven't experienced a single outbreak in over five decades so I believe it's safe to say this is quite sufficient!
Just don't come blaming me if I'm carrying something and end up getting everyone sick and dead
DING!
13
DING DING DING
20
11
5
2
Ding
17
TROOT
17
Number 17 Emil Västerström to the window- please!
Number 17!
What in ?
WHAT is in your bag?!

Yeeess? How may I help you?
Sir are you aware of the fact that your suitcase is filled with explosives?
That's my work equipment!
I'm allowed to carry them now go back there and move this along
You need a permit to transport somethin like this into c vitan quarters!
Do you have a permit?
U-um...
Ding
Uumm!
Oh dear I think he might need some help
!?
That's my number! What are they going to do to me?
Nothing Now you pick up your belongings walk into one of those changing rooms put on your clothes and go through the next door
And then you wait for me! Don t go anywhere alone!

Eww
Weird ugly moose!

There's indeed human activity on the island's shores!

And there's not a single sign of human activity!
Mina we can't be sure! It's probably abandoned!
Right?
The weather-hut! It's in perfect shape! Full of supplies!
So grateful that at times like these I can count on Mina's keen eyes and Thea's ability to see both!
Well... at least we're walking on dry land! We can still have a good time and enjoy ourselves in some far less landlocked fun!
Hard work but we did it! Yes!
Can we please start a survey team on this island?
It's not that bad!
Walking on dry land!
And it's not a survey team's job to spy on the local fauna!
Yay, fantasy.


STAVANGER
SALLEROY

Right then we're finally done packing our first load of supplies!
A black dot, way
Thea!

Be honest: our capital is the most impressive place you've ever seen isn't it?
It's pretty neat.
Although I thought there'd be more technology around...
The horses are cool and all but frankly was expecting mechanical vehicles
Only the military that uses those! A spare part for a large machine can cost as much a a healthy work horse you know
It's not exactly a practical alternative for...commoners.
But we have phone lines to every house in the city street lights that always work and now we even have a public radio system Do you have that over where you live?
No we don't That is pretty impressive
But I have to say the coolest thing is how safe everyone seems to feel here! It's like no one is scared of an outbreak!
Does that happen a lot?
Where you live I mean?
Oh never where we live now. But where we used to live..

Before me, my brother and Lalli joined the military and relocated to Kuruu. We lived in *Saimaa*. It's a huge lake system and all the towns and villages are scattered on small islands often far away from each other
Which is *good!* It's easy to keep each village safe with simple measures.
Even the ones where almost no one is immune.
Even so, one year there might be a trade route to some other island far, far away
VIHTAKANNANS
HANKASA
RUOTIMONS
One year there might not.
It was just something that always could happen

But no
It doesnit
happen a
lot.
Aaand
here we
are!
Yes and it's
the last nice
thing we still
possess
Our
humble
home!
Oh,
it's really
nice!
CREAK
GRAAA
Yaay!
Cousin
Emil!
Go cling
on your
father,
please!
I
quit!
Aaa
what?!

We need you! We'll sell things and pay you more!
It's not an issue of compensation! It's about the three changelings that you insist on harbouring in your home!
Only one more day! Or two. Please let us have two!
Stop that! He clearly doesn't like it!
Did you use to live here?
Hah, no.
My family has always lived up northwest by the mountains... But I went to school here for a couple of years so I visited a lot
I haven't seen any children in so long. I almost forgot how cute you are!
You're kinda fat.
I heard your parents say that one of you is adopted and they don't love that one as much as the other two.
Come. I'll show you around.

Bedrooms are upstairs that there is the dining room and kitchen
Pssh!
...bathroom is at the end there if you need it...
...and...I assume this is no longer the living room
Erhm, you'd think they could pay us proper salaries if they can afford that...
Oh, this here is the study!
Hi Bessel
Errh!

Wow Taru really wasn't exaggerating
These other two are so much more qualified than me are! And so much taller! They must be really passionate about this cause if they've agreed to–
Oh, except this one's been fired a lot. Maybe that's a reason? I wonder what's wrong with the other one
What does mine say?
There better not be anything mean about me there!
Here's yours.
Excuse me I don't read Icelandic
Well then, nothing mean here– date and place of birth health status education..
U-um? You were in school until you were 17? You've only been with the army for two years?
Quite accurate! I'm primarily a brainiac but I decided to go for the brawn.
But... then how can you not know Icelandic? Isn't it a mandatory subject for academics?
Perhaps in public school. I, on the other hand was provided a private tutor by my dear Father, and allowed to tailor my own curriculum

And I was quite a prodigy! No matter what subject I chose, I excelled. With no effort at all!
What did you study?
But then I was forced into the lowly public school system! And those so called "teachers" they all had it in for me from the very first day!
JOIN NOW!
Thrashing my grades, breaking my confidence, trying to crush me!
JOIN NOW!
But I shall have the last laugh! If it hadn't been for them pushing me away from academia
I never would have discovered
my true passion!
Once I'm a famous hero they'll all regret doubting my excellence!
And proving my skills with this little mission is the perfect opportunity to slingshot myself into a higher rank.
Speaking of skills:
This nonsense about your cousin being a mage...
z

...It's one of those silly, non-literal titles isn't it? He can't really do anything special, can he?
It's not a silly title, he is a mage! And so is my brother!
In that case I'm sure he can prove it by showing me a little bit something?
Of course he can!
Lalli!
Would you like to show Emil a little spell?
No
Uh... come on, Lalli, a teeny-tiny one! Prove to him that you really can do it!
Doesn't it bother you that he thinks you can't?
No
H-he doesn't feel up to it right now, but I'm sure he'll be happy to show you a bit later
Mm-hm
Oh good, there you all are. We're almost ready to leave

And the babysitter-situation is...?
Solved. For now... We'll be able to drop you off at the border with your equipment.
And Tuurt as the skald of the crew these are now yours! All the information you'll need to carry out your research!
Your two superior crew members are already well versed on all of it. Ancient maps. Itemized book salvation lists. A few newspaper clippings from the time of the illness...
Oh, Emil...of course you're allowed to read these too if you want to
I truly don't care. I don't need information to do my job
I don't remember "book salvation" being mentioned in my mission statement.
That's because it's our little secret! While you take care of the research part that we were officially funded for...
...we'll all make plenty of money on the side. Unofficially.
Money? How much money?
Yes, money!
The Icelandic government might not care about rediscovering our history- but there are others who do! And who are willing to pay a fortune for the treasures that lie in the ruins of the old world!
Ancient tomes waiting out there for some brave souls to come and salvage them!
How much money and what is my share of it!?

How much money? That's exactly what I asked after I was forced into menial labour following our financial... misfortunes...
The most menial task that one might bestow a skald! Copying the contents of the remaining old world literature, word for word.
Oh the humiliation! The degradation!
Whoopsie!
Västerströöm!
Do you have any idea how much money originals like these cost?!
Actually I don't. How much money?
Say, a book such as this for example?
Hm...
They wouldn't be so irreplaceable if those hooligans with their flame-throwers weren't let loose wherever they please!
Someone ought to take it upon themselves to go out there and save the remaining books before the army lets them all burn in their wake!
Yes, someone ought to! F-for the sake of... science, yes!

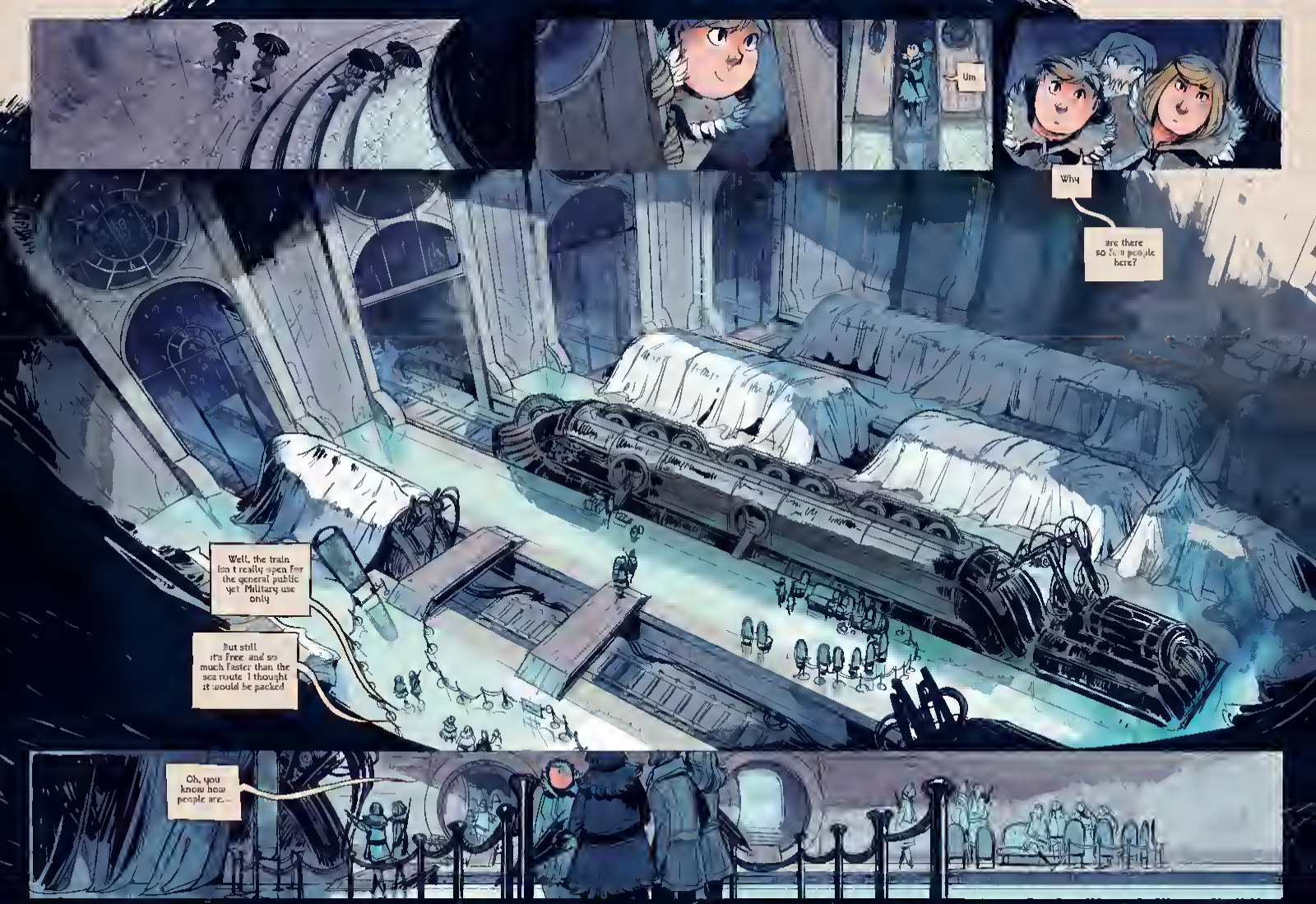
I saw a door of great opportunity open in front of me, and that evening I quit my job.
Thanks for the job I quit!
Then I had to convince my wife to join me on this noble venture!
Which wasn't very difficult. I don't think she finds her job too rewarding either.
Results for sample 681 are in
"Notable side effects include blindness, hair loss and malignant tumours in the abdominal cavity
Did not work as a cure or a vaccine"
So, that's back to square one.. or...?
You heard them. back to square one everyone!
I hate this job so much.
As luck would have it we knew Taru, who was able to help us in the right direction with her military background
That sounds like a great idea!
Doesn't it!
It does?
And she knew Trond Andersen, retired general from the Norwegian army in Balsnes. He's been very useful! And old
FRER MED TROND
So how about it? Interested?
Anything to get me out of this.
Happy retirement, Trond!

And I've found plenty of parties willing to pay grandly for certain literary items.
Particularly among the Danes. Those people have the money and thirst for old world knowledge but their military and spirit are crushed.
ANNAR
Which makes them the perfect target... I mean... beneficiary of our pursuit!
You Tuurt simply have to take care of the cover research and leave all this to your teammates!
Aye-aye, boss!
Why does my contract not say anything about additional compensation?
Because it's a secret! We can't simply put stuff like that into official documents!
We can discuss it once, and if you actually find anything of value.
You better not be planning to rip me off...
Everyone ready to go?

If we could get to the station before it starts raining that would be great...
Wait! No! You're going away somewhere again? Already?
Only for a couple of nights. I promise!
Yaay! Emil, we can play hairdresser salon when you get back!
Oh, um. I'm not coming back
Maybe in a couple of months I'll try to visit then
Awww!
But daddy will be home soon!
Blaaah!
Supplies, uniforms, documents... I think we have all we came for. Time to go

SVEAVAGEN

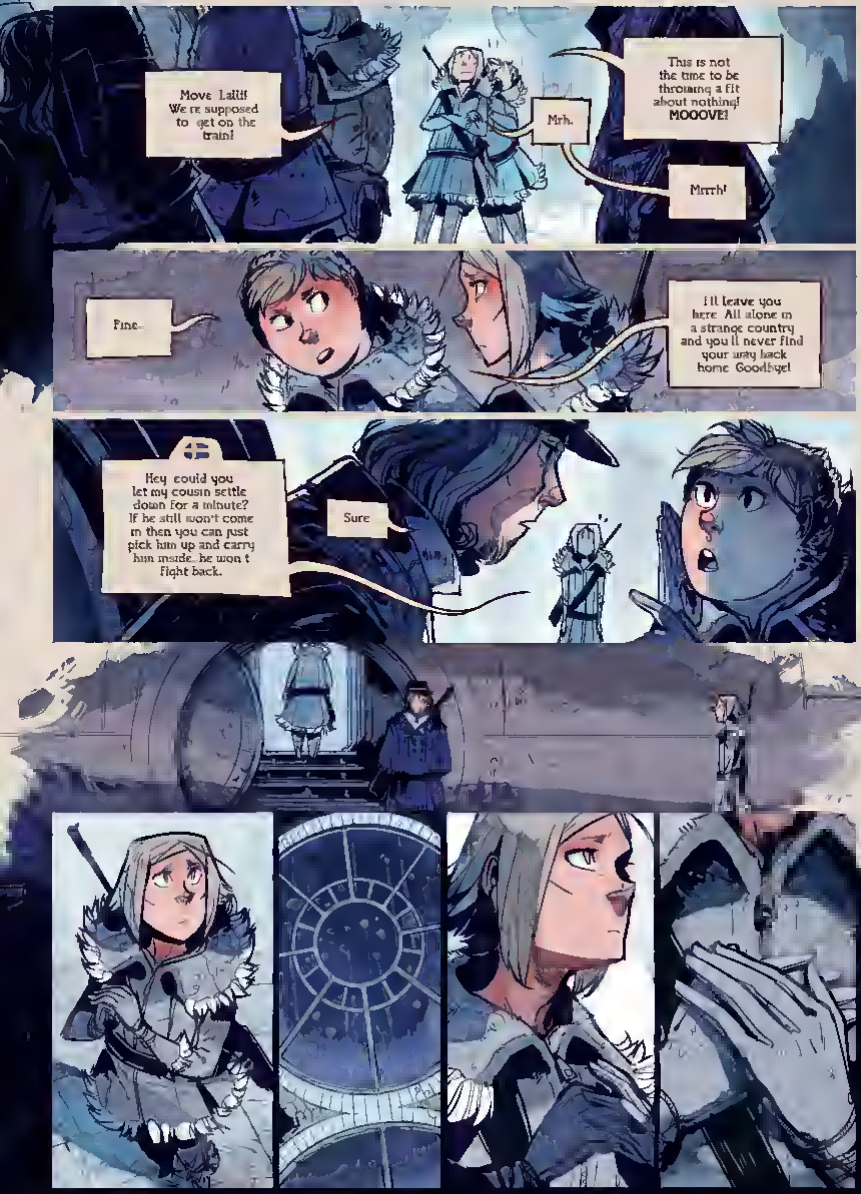
3


Um
Why
are there so few people here?
Well, the train isn't really open for the general public yet. Military use only
But still it's free and so much faster than the sea route. I thought it would be packed
Oh, you know how people are...

They're scared to try new things. Set in their old tried ways
Give it a few years and people will be flocking to these halls.
That's not exactly why no one wants to use this train line
No?
No. And it isn't new by any means, it was finished decades ago
The Swedes are a bit too ambitious with their projects sometimes, and they just won't let something go if it fails.
Like this ridiculous train track.
You should have seen how proud they were of it back in the days when they first announced it opened
And I suppose the first public ride went well enough

...and the second one...
...and then there was an accident.
But it's reliable enough these days after some improvements. And while I personally feel that the pompous Swedes are wasting their resources maintaining this thing, at least we get a free ride out of it

On top of everything those poor fools made the rides during the heat of summer. We're too smart for that.
It's nice to see some fresh faces around here. Nervous?
Oh, pff, no.
...eight, nine, ten...
Eleven.
Everyone's counted for, we're ready.
Mhm.
Attention, passengers! We will now begin boarding!
Please mind your steps. I don't want to see anyone falling off the boarding ramp this time!
Lalli!

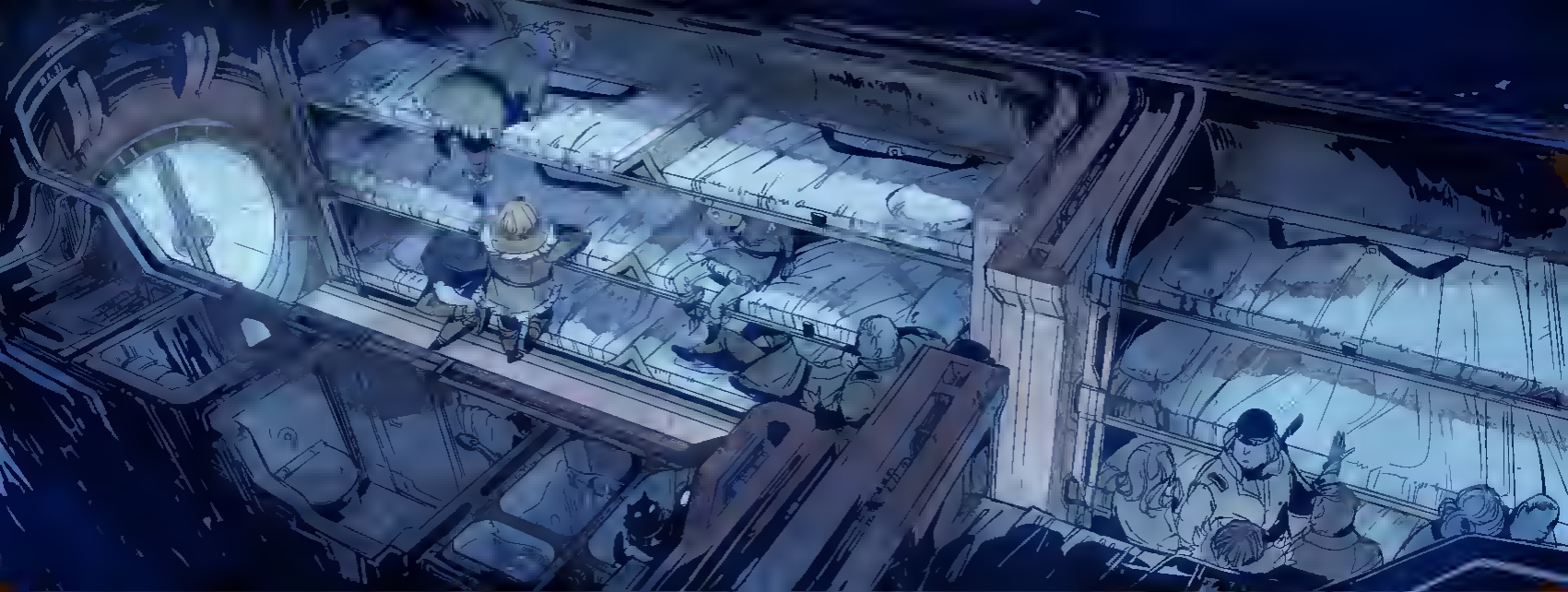

Move Laiii!
We're supposed to get on the train!
Mrh.
This is not the time to be throwing a fit about nothing! MOOOVE!
Mrrrh!
Fine.
I'll leave you here. All alone in a strange country and you'll never find your way back home. Goodbye!
Hey, could you let my cousin settle down for a minute? If he still won't come in then you can just pick him up and carry him inside. he won't fight back.
Sure

Kuutar kaltis
taivon tytär
Kuule kutsu kuultaisen
valkerruksen valvallosen
hädän huuto muilta mailta
kaukaa kotokankahilta
Hopeainen hohto heitä,
viereen valo valkiainen,
etter aurma suohon syökse-
jottei hiisi hautaan hae
Jääköön surut surematta
tuonen tuvat tuntematta

I hope you're finished with whatever you're doing, your minute is up
Time to carry you inside.
Oh, okay then
hop

VRRRRRRR
Klang
ZZZRRRRRRRRR
Good evening and welcome to the Sveavägen express train straight to the Öresundsbro base
We should reach our destination in approximately 16 hours but you'll surely be sleeping through most of it

By the time we reach the high danger areas of the far south the sun will already be rising and providing us with shelter
And we just received word about a sudden change in the weather! Looks as if the moon will share its light with us after all.
Which lowers tonight's hazard prognosis to only 7 out of 10!
It'll be a bumpy ride but not more so than the usual. I hope you'll all have good nights' sleep and a pleasant ride! Thank you.
Clap Clap
Now kindly move to your designated sleeping areas



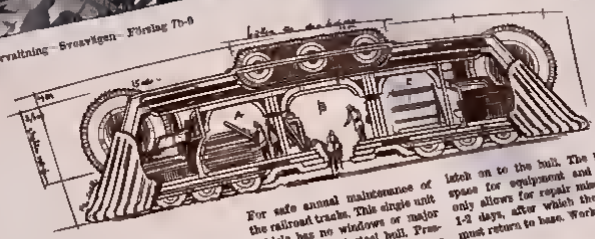
I'm terribly sorry!
Uh-huh...
Sorry!
Hrmff!

Excuse me!
Are the tracks properly maintained? This sort of ungodly ruckus will disturb my sleep!
KRONORR
Settle down, kid, there is nothing wrong with the tracks.
You'll have to expect a certain amount of "ruckus" where we're passing though. This isn't some luxury journey!
And you're required to keep your bed belt fastened!
Bah! How can they expect us to sleep with such constricting-
zZZZz
At least you understand my concern.

Well, I know you can't understand me, but for what it's worth: god natt!
Hyvää yötä.
PAT PAT
See you tomorrow, Lalli.

Sveriges Järnvägsförvaltning – Svesvägen – Förslag 7b-9

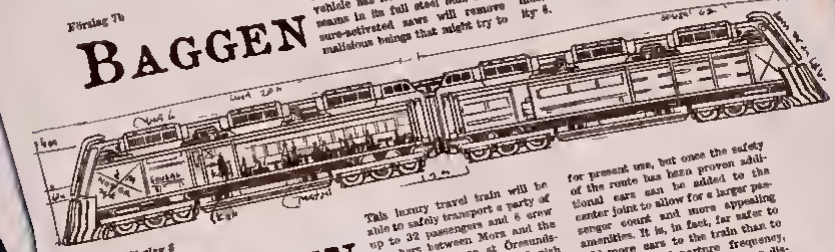
Datum. 01.03 71



Förslag 7b

BAGGEN

For safe annual maintenance of the railroad tracks. This single unit vehicle has no windows or major seams in its full steel hull. Pressure-activated saws will remove malicious beings that might try to latch on to the hull. The limited space for equipment and energy only allows for repair missions of 1-2 days, after which the vehicle must return to base. Worker capacity 6.



Förslag 8

HJORTEN

This luxury travel train will be able to safely transport a party of up to 32 passengers and 6 crew members between Mora and the military port base at Öresundshrön (currently under Danish rule). Particularly merchants and specialists travelling to and from [illegible] Norway will be for present use, but once the safety of the route has been proven additional cars can be added to the center joint to allow for a larger passenger count and more appealing amenities. It is, in fact, far safer to add more cars to the train than to increase the departure frequency, which would cause unnecessary disturbances to the Silent areas surrounding the tracks.

As shown in proposal 8 it will be

Sveriges Järnvägsförvaltning
Svesvägen | Förslag 16

Datum: 22.03.79

Förslag 16

DALAHÄSTEN

It is time to start pushing forward once again, and learn from our past mistakes rather than abandon one of our nation's most ambitious undertakings since the end of the old world.

We made the mistake of prioritizing comfort of travel over safety, and while the former is something to eventually aspire for we need to begin anew with the foundation of safety! Once that foundation is as strong and unmoving as our collective determination, we can then move on to develop-

The design of DALAHÄSTEN is based on the core properties of the track maintenance vehicle BAGGEN, which has over many years of service proven to be a reliable and safe model. Although BAGGEN still needs intense reparations after most missions, a full breach has yet to occur. While the larger size of DALAHÄSTEN does make it more susceptible to attacks and greater damage, the risk of

fully sealable compartments and backup engine systems will allow the train to continue on in case a portion of the interior is compromised. The saws both on top and on the front of the train are automatically activated by applied pressure once outside the parameters of our bases, has may also be manually controlled and monitored by the safety personnel.

TRRRNNG
HrrFal
Can't sleep either?
You don t need to be scared of the noises.
I asked and they're allegedly something to be expected around here Try to ignore them and get some sleep
Or at least keep your eyes closed and rest as much as you can We have to be alert and ready for work tomorrow!
Hrmh. I suppose I need to get the message across in a more universal language
Sleep..
Pat Pat
Sleep. Lalil. Sleep!
SLEEP!
?!

I apologize, but I'm only acting in your best interest. Now stay put until we've arrived, please.
!
Lalli, slee-
-eeep?!
Wha-?

KAIJU

THUNK
CRANG
RRRREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

E-excuse me-!
Return to your bed please!
But are we-?!
..Alright then
But should-?
No! Strap yourself in, or you might injure yourself!
Buckle down NOW, everything is under control!
KRROMK
See? All is calm and well again!
Hello? Hey!
Do you get any contact with the third defence sector over there?
No, looks offline from here too. And it soun`s like it might be jammed.
Aren`t you the one specifically told to wear the bed belt earlier?

Sigh
Heads up, Agneta, there's a second one running around.
PLEASE return to your bed and stay there!
For your own safety!
..Hol' on.
RNR
RRNR RNR
RNR
RNR
RNR

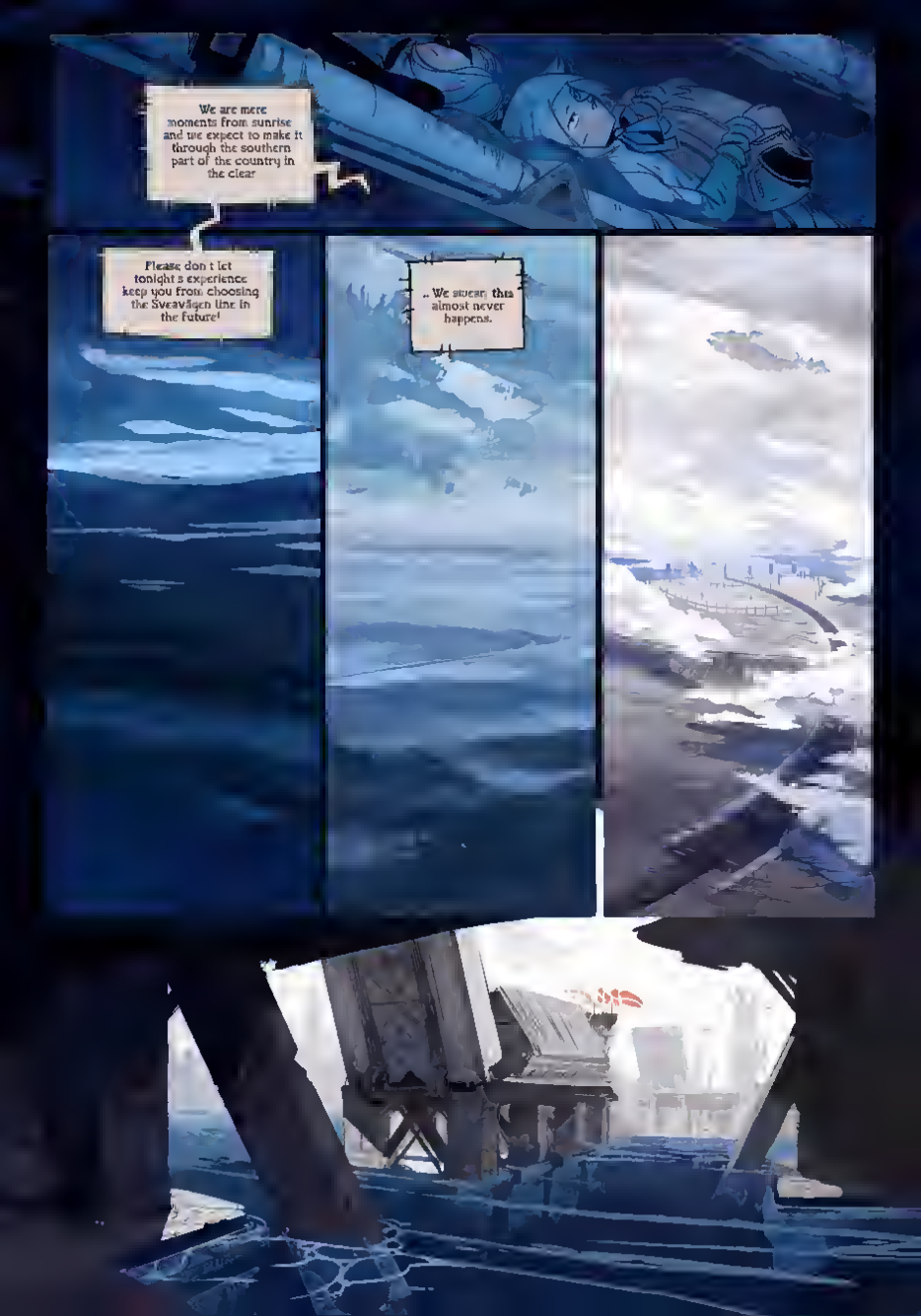
BREACH!!
Breach in sector three!
!?!
You're not immune, yes?
Ah... y-yes?
Put this on, please.
?
All guards to sector three!
Lalli!

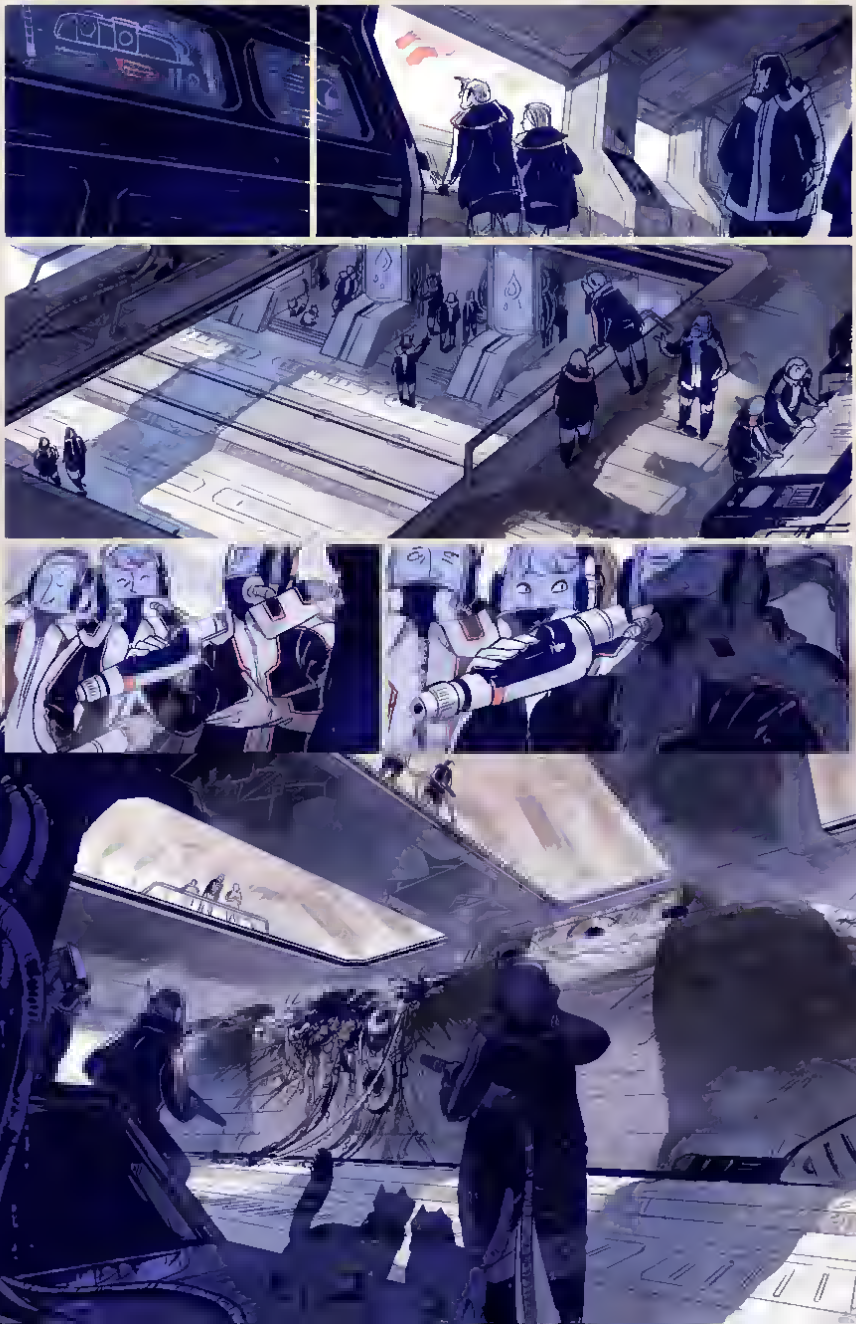
You again?! Do you NOT understand what is going on!?
Yes I do and I'm very sorry but I don't think my friend here understands and I'm just going to take him with me and not get in the way anymore after that and I am truly sorry!
Lalli, come on, we can't be here!
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK

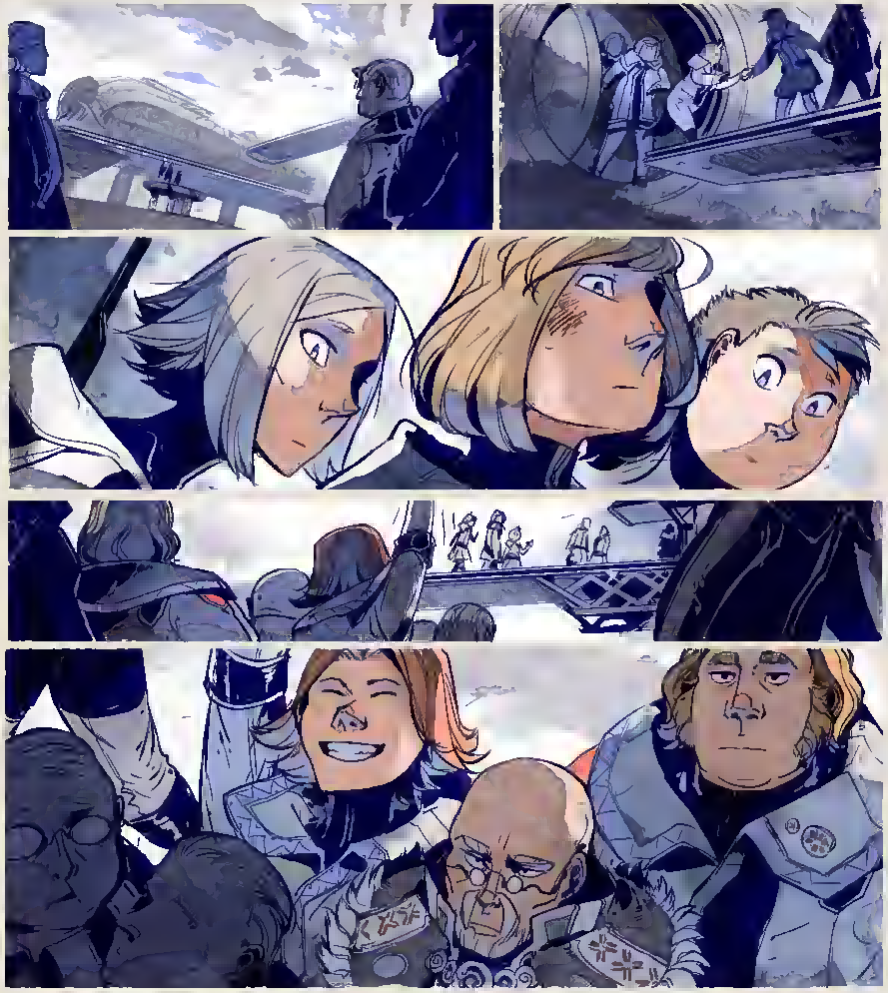
What?
I'd say we entered a tunnel.
Alright then.
Whoa, hey, are you-?
I'll be fine.
It's nothing but a flesh wound.
AIEEE!!
KRUNK

Oy, there's still a viable head over there!
I'm on it!
Hey!
What do we do?!
Move anyone who isn't immune into the second compartment and close it!
We have to seal off this area!
I think that means you there
Be a dear of a gentleman and have the two boys this bag, they'll need their uniforms in the morning. Assuming that we aren't all dead by then.
M'hm.
Wait! What about Lalli and Emil?
VRRRRR
But...
...what even happened?
We don't know!

CLICK!
Ah— note to all passengers. We've experienced a highly unusual degree of inconvenience tonight. But we assure you, there is no need to worry at this time. All is under control!


We are mere moments from sunrise and we expect to make it through the southern part of the country in the clear
Please don t let tonight s experience keep you from choosing the Svealagen line in the future!
.. We swear, this almost never happens.

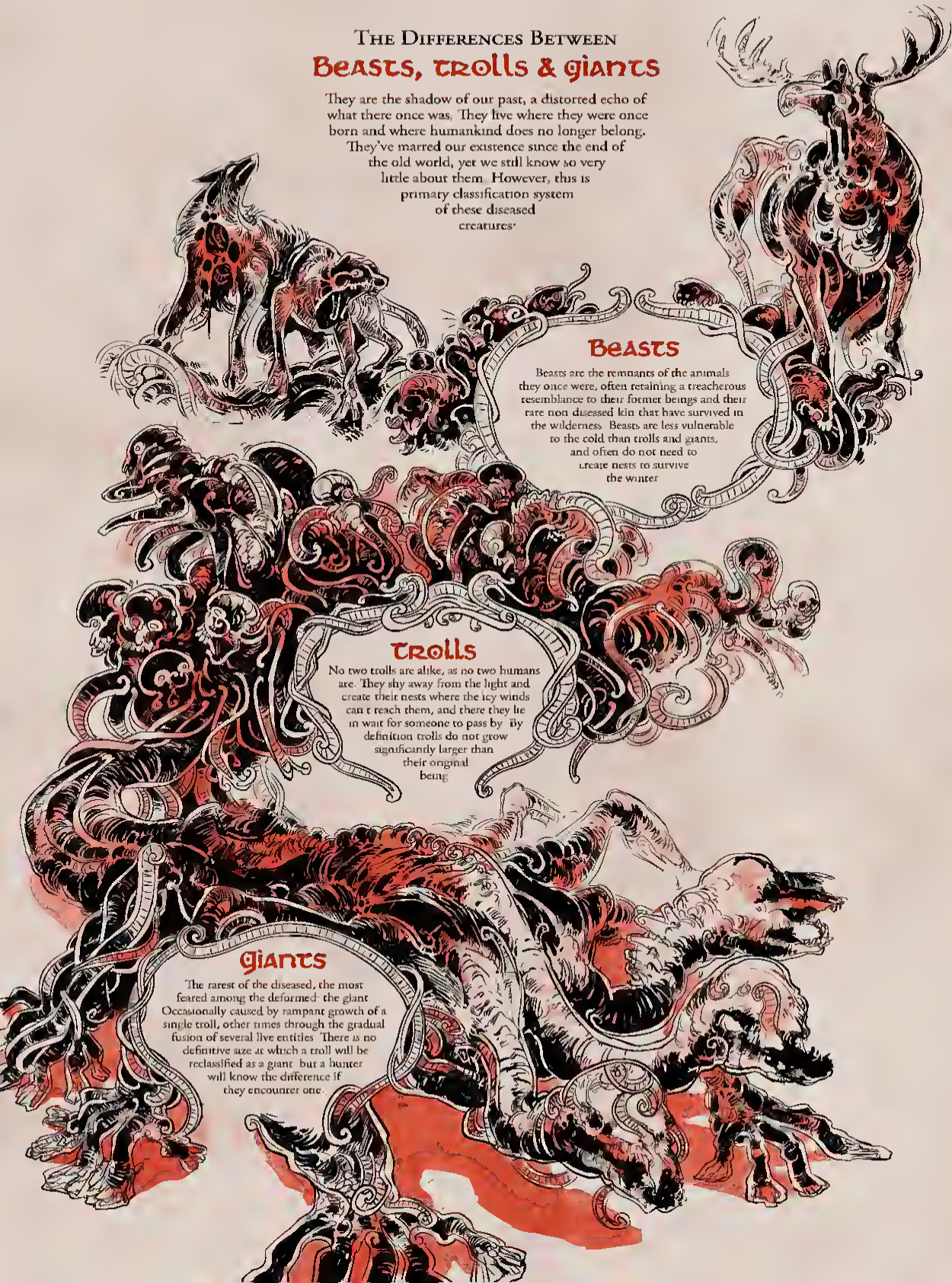




The Differences Between

Beasts, trolls & giants

They are the shadow of our past, a distorted echo of what there once was. They live where they were once born and where humankind does no longer belong. They've marred our existence since the end of the old world, yet we still know so very little about them. However, this is primary classification system of these diseased creatures.



Beasts

Beasts are the remnants of the animals they once were, often retaining a treacherous resemblance to their former beings and their rare non diseased kin that have survived in the wilderness. Beasts are less vulnerable to the cold than trolls and giants, and often do not need to create nests to survive the winter.

Trolls

No two trolls are alike, as no two humans are. They shy away from the light and create their nests where the icy winds can't reach them, and there they lie in wait for someone to pass by. By definition trolls do not grow significantly larger than their original being.

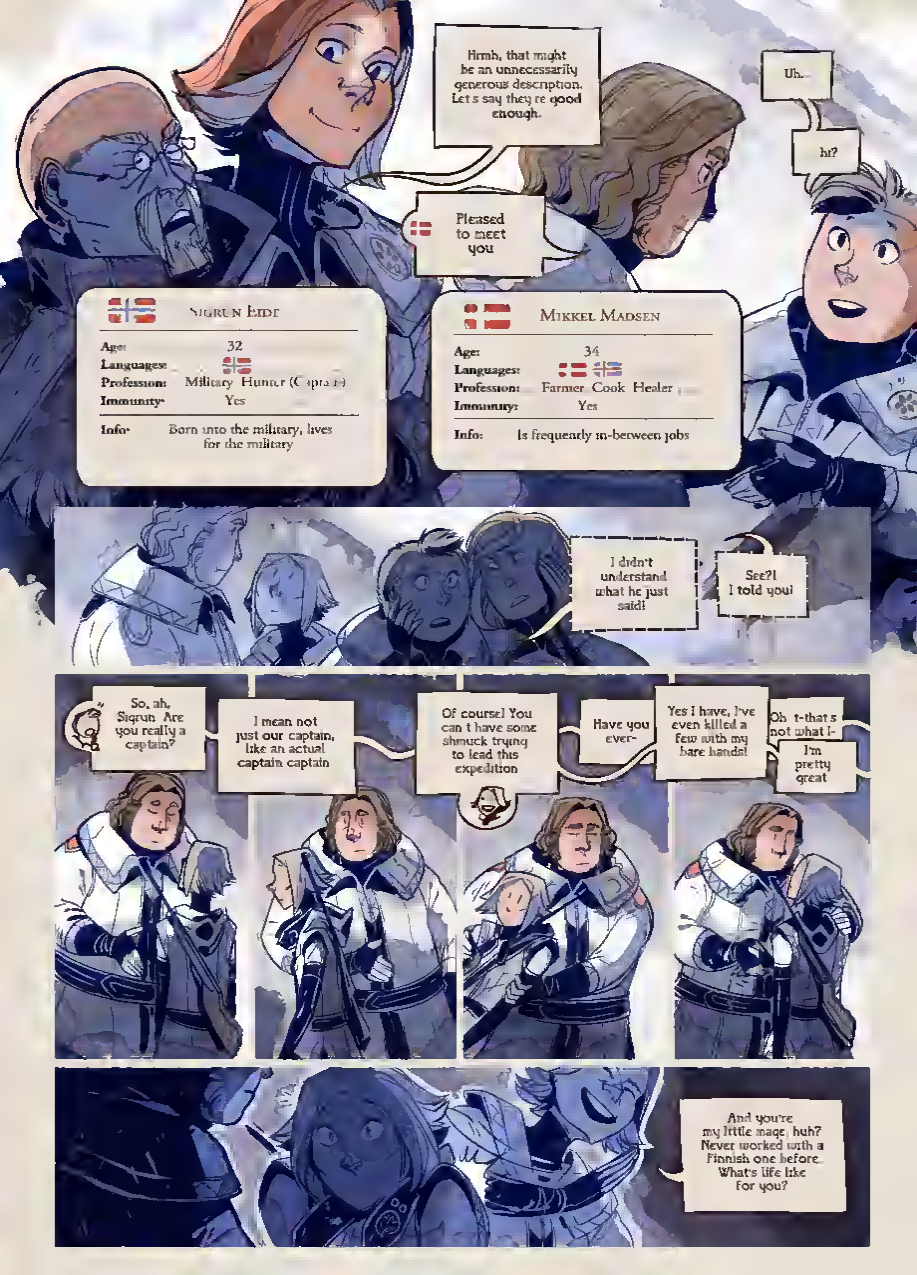
Giants

The rarest of the diseased, the most feared among the deformed- the giant. Occasionally caused by rampant growth of a single troll, other times through the gradual fusion of several live entities. There is no definitive size at which a troll will be reclassified as a giant, but a hunter will know the difference if they encounter one.

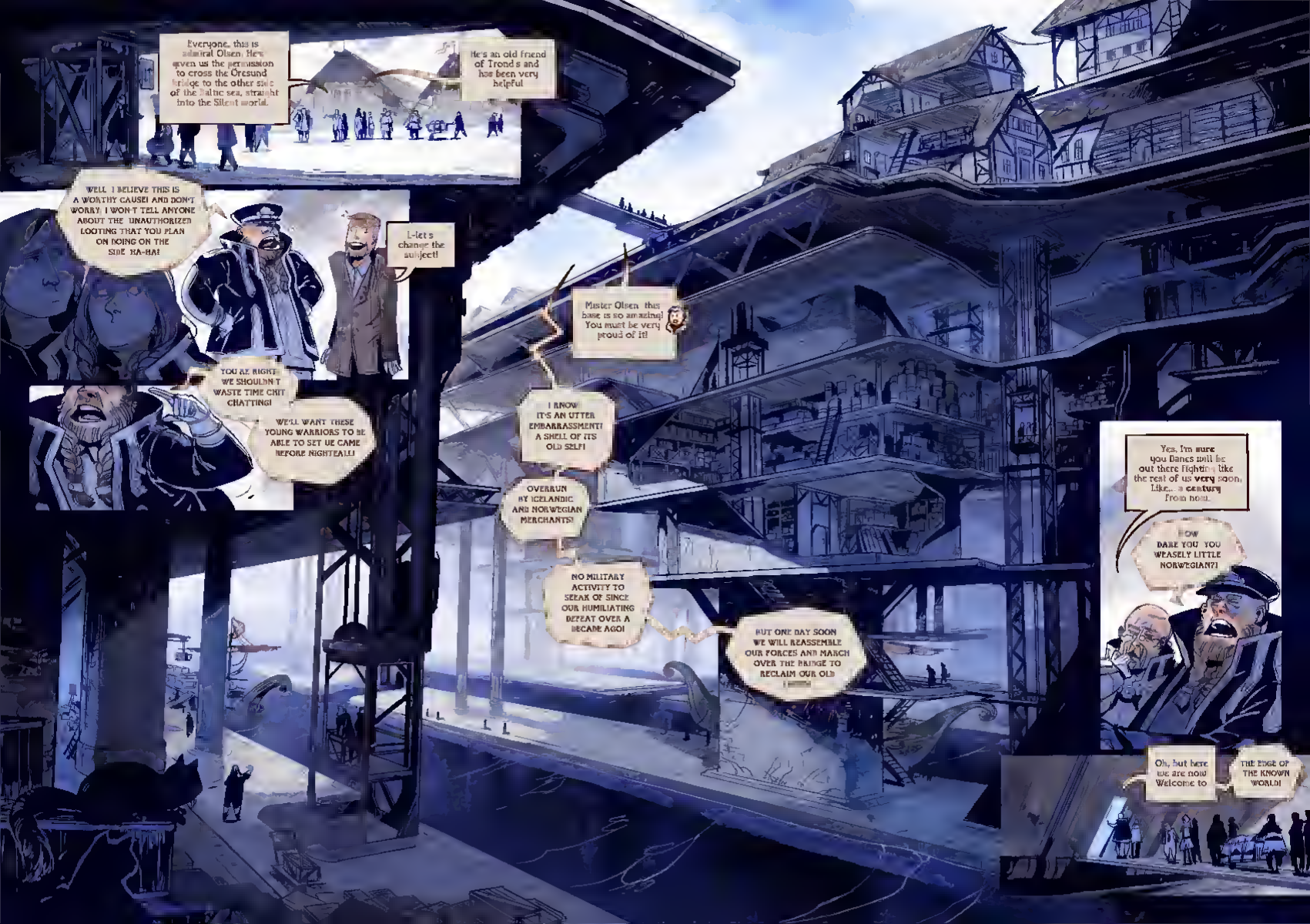
4

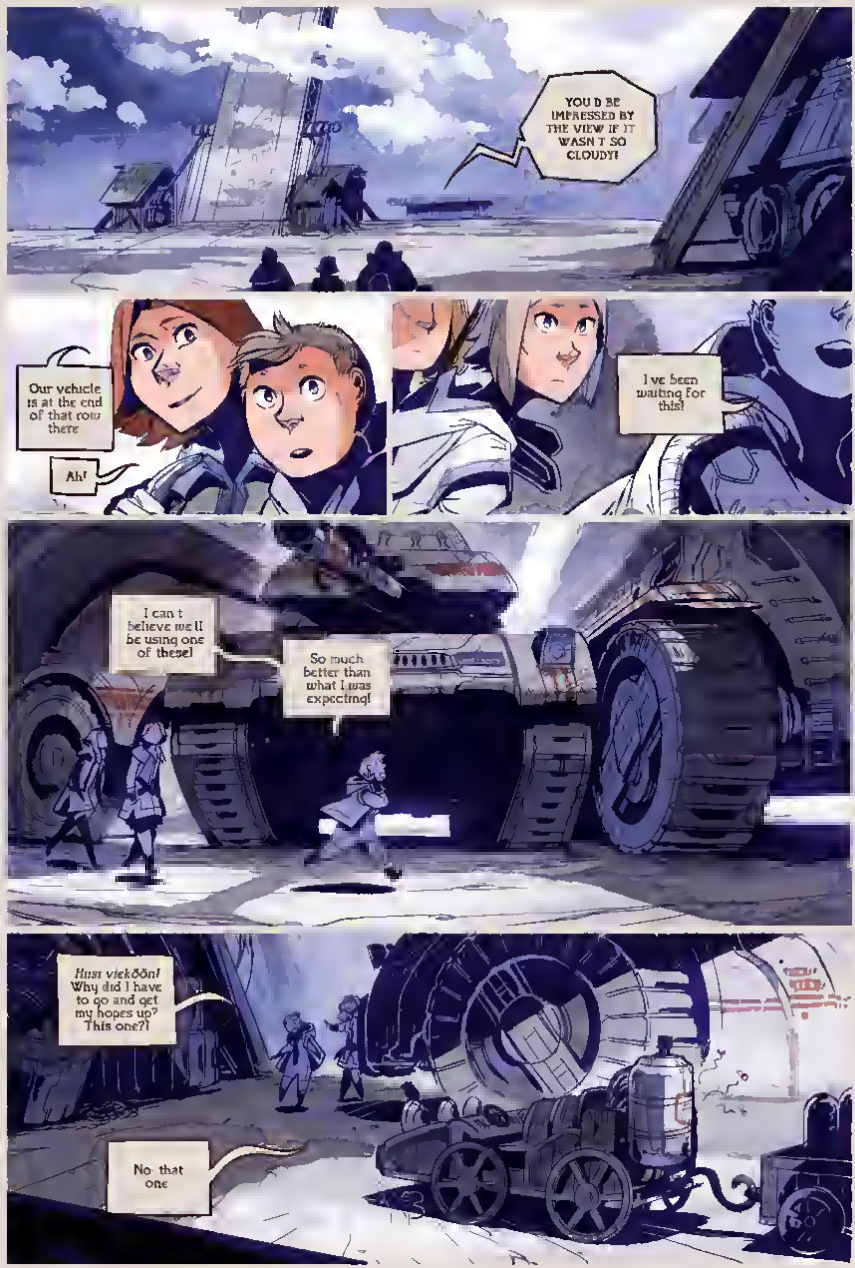
Have you ever met a Norwegian or Dane before, Emil?
Yes and no
I've met some Norwegians. They send over part of their forces to help out with the cleansing work from time to time. Not sure why, seemed like they just enjoy the travelling aspect of it.
And they're...okay, I suppose. A bit unruly. Honestly I'm not even sure if they have proper civilization over there in their dumb fjords.
But I don't mind them. Too much.
Danes... don't know, never met one before either. They keep to themselves on their dumb little island. But I heard a recording of their language once, and it is terrible!
You can't understand a word!
Oh, I don't know about that... I've read some Danish. It seemed close enough to Swedish that I'm sure I'll be able to understand something.
No, you will certainly not! Believe me.
Yes, the words might appear written the same, but when they speak...
...it's as if they've shoved a potato down their throats or stuffed their mouths full of porridge.
making Danish sound like hurgh blurgah aughin gnading orghbogh bligh bla!

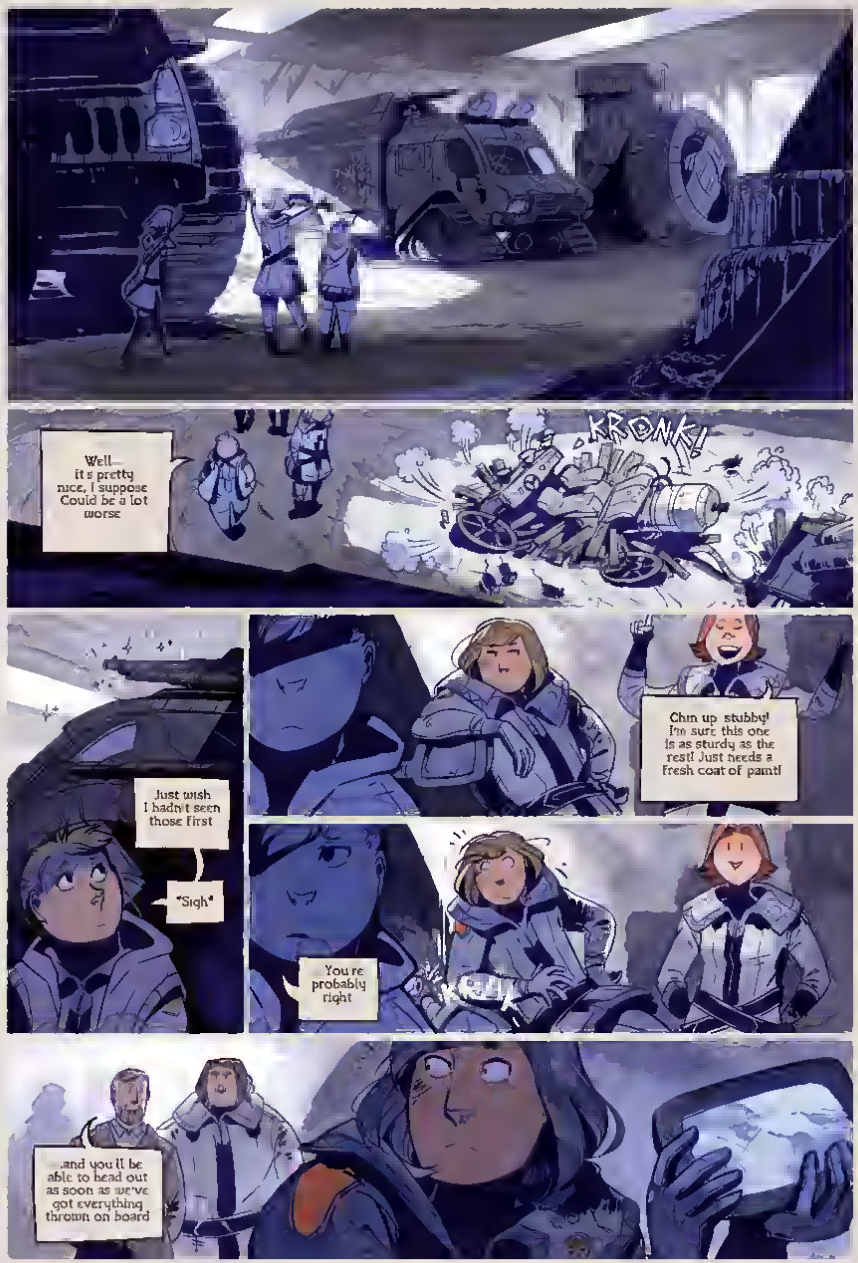
Alright younglings we're all set here!
Ee!
Are you ready to meet the rest of your team?
Eee!
E ee?
Y-you're-
-so TALL!
Why yes I am! I like you already
Thank Trond for finding you such experienced and apt crew mates! Sigrun and Mikkel here will be your superiors


Hrmh, that might be an unnecessarily generous description. Let's say they're good enough.
Uh...
hi?
Pleased to meet you
Sigrun Eide
Age: 32
Languages:
Profession: Military Hunter (Corporal)
Immunity: Yes
Info: Born into the military, lives for the military
Mikkel Madsen
Age: 34
Languages:
Profession: Farmer, Cook, Healer
Immunity: Yes
Info: Is frequently in-between jobs
I didn't understand what he just said!
See?! I told you!
So, ah, Sigrun. Are you really a captain?
I mean not just our captain, like an actual captain captain
Of course! You can't have some shmuck trying to lead this expedition
Have you ever-
Yes I have, I've even killed a few with my bare hands!
Oh, t-that's not what I-
I'm pretty great
And you're my little mage, huh? Never worked with a Finnish one before. What's life like for you?

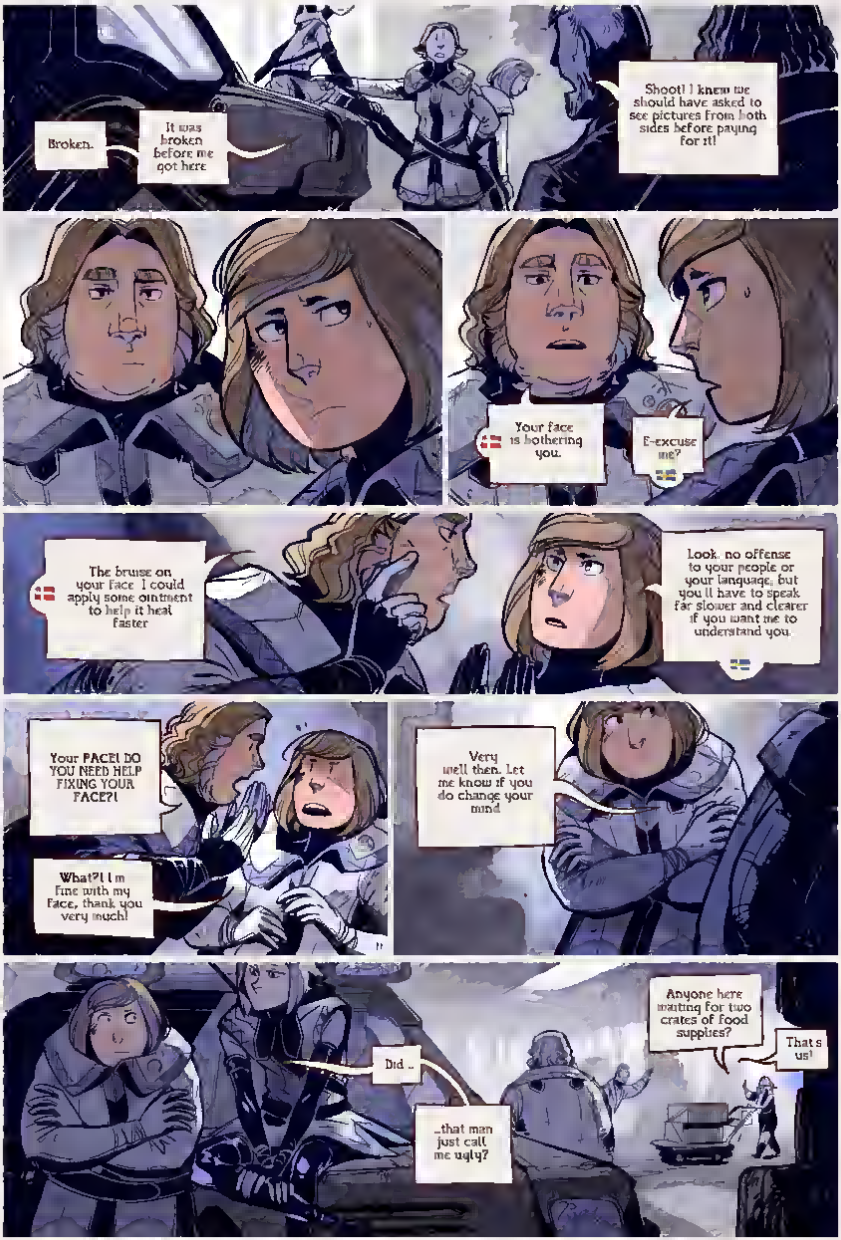
Don't feel like talking about it? That's cool, maybe later?
He doesn't know any Scandinavian languages, he won't understand what you're saying
Uh?
Well how's that going to work?
Oh, I'll be translating for him!
Great. But if we're out and about without you, get attacked by a troll and I yell "AUUUUN!", will you show up to translate?
No
..but he's not stupid, he might figure that one out
You don't need to worry about him- he's surprisingly easy to communicate with. I haven't shared a single word with him yet we already get along swimmingly
Isn't that right, Lalli?
Tuuri, please explain to him that it was a friendly punch.
Tuuri: why do these people keep hitting me!?
AH. SO THE REST OF YOU HAVE ARRIVED!
WELCOME TO MY HUMBLE BASE! I'M DELIGHTED TO ONCE AGAIN SEE IT USED FOR A MORE GLORIOUS PURPOSE THAN LOWLY TRADE AND TRAVEL! OH- IT'S BEEN TOO LONG!
ARE YOU EXCITED?! I KNOW I AM!

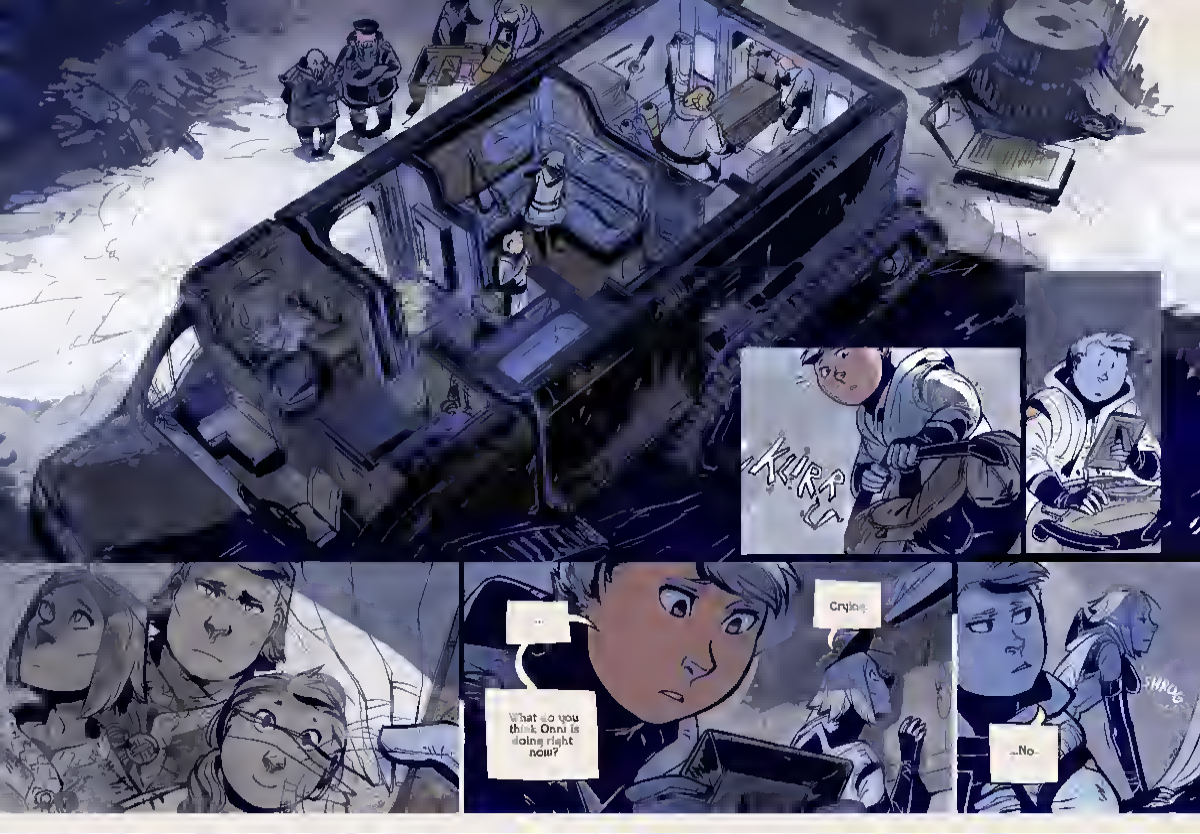

Everyone, this is admiral Olsen. He's given us the permission to cross the Öresund bridge to the other side of the Baltic sea, straight into the Silent world.
He's an old friend of Trond's and has been very helpful
WELL I BELIEVE THIS IS A WORTHY CAUSE! AND DON'T WORRY, I WON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THE UNAUTHORIZED LOOTING THAT YOU PLAN ON DOING ON THE SIDE HA-HA!
I-let's change the subject!
YOU'RE RIGHT WE SHOULDN'T WASTE TIME CHIT CHATTING!
WE'LL WANT THESE YOUNG WARRIORS TO BE ABLE TO SET UE CAME BEFORE NIGHTFALL!
Mister Olsen this base is so amazing! You must be very proud of it!
I KNOW IT'S AN UTTER EMBARRASSMENT! A SHELL OF ITS OLD SELF!
OVERRUN BY ICELANDIC AND NORWEGIAN MERCHANTS!
NO MILITARY ACTIVITY TO SPEAK OF SINCE OUR HUMILIATING DEFEAT OVER A BECAME AGO!
BUT ONE DAY SOON WE WILL REASSEMBLE OUR FORCES AND MARCH OVER THE BRIDGE TO RECLAIM OUR OLD
Yes, I'm sure you Danes will be out there fighting like the rest of us very soon. Like... a century from now.
HOW DARE YOU YOU WEASELY LITTLE NORWEGIAN?!
Oh, but here we are now! Welcome to
THE EDGE OF THE KNOWN WORLD!

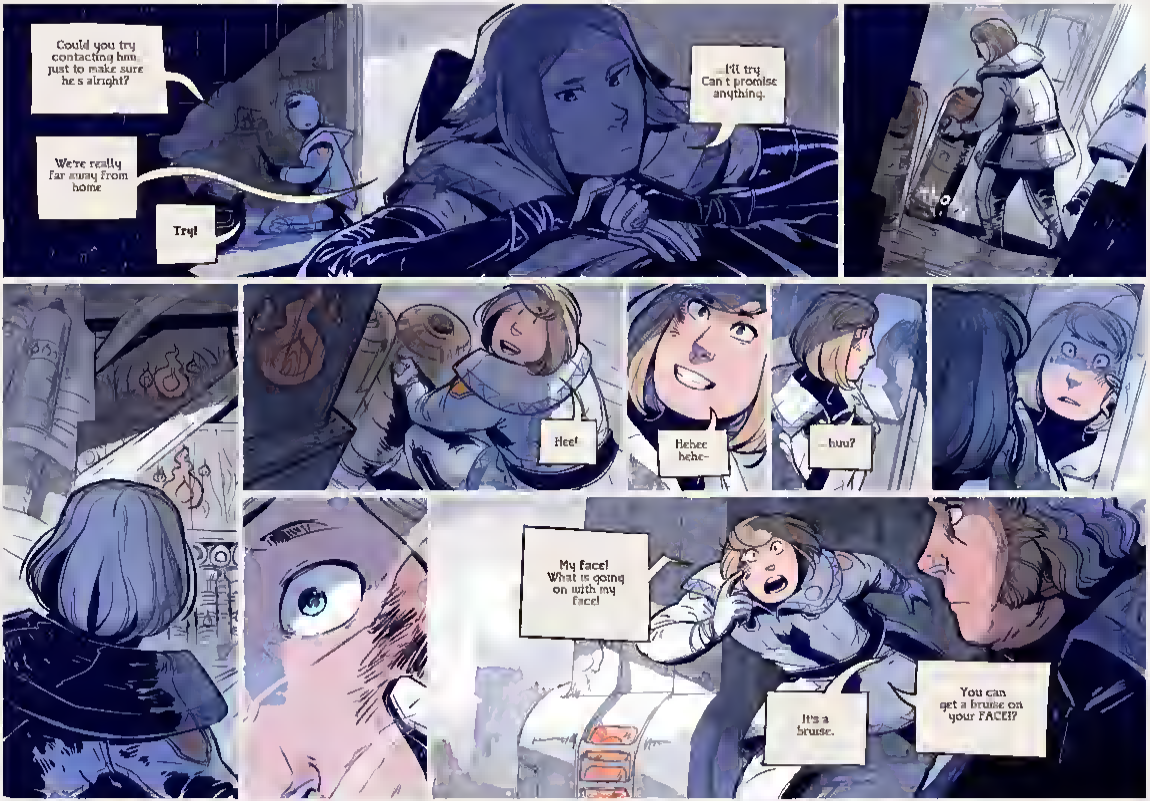

YOU D BE IMPRESSED BY THE VIEW IF IT WASN T SO CLOUDY!
Our vehicle is at the end of that row there
Ah!
I ve been waiting for this!
I can t believe we ll be using one of these!
So much better than what I was expecting!
Hust vickööñ! Why did I have to go and get my hopes up? This one?!
No that one

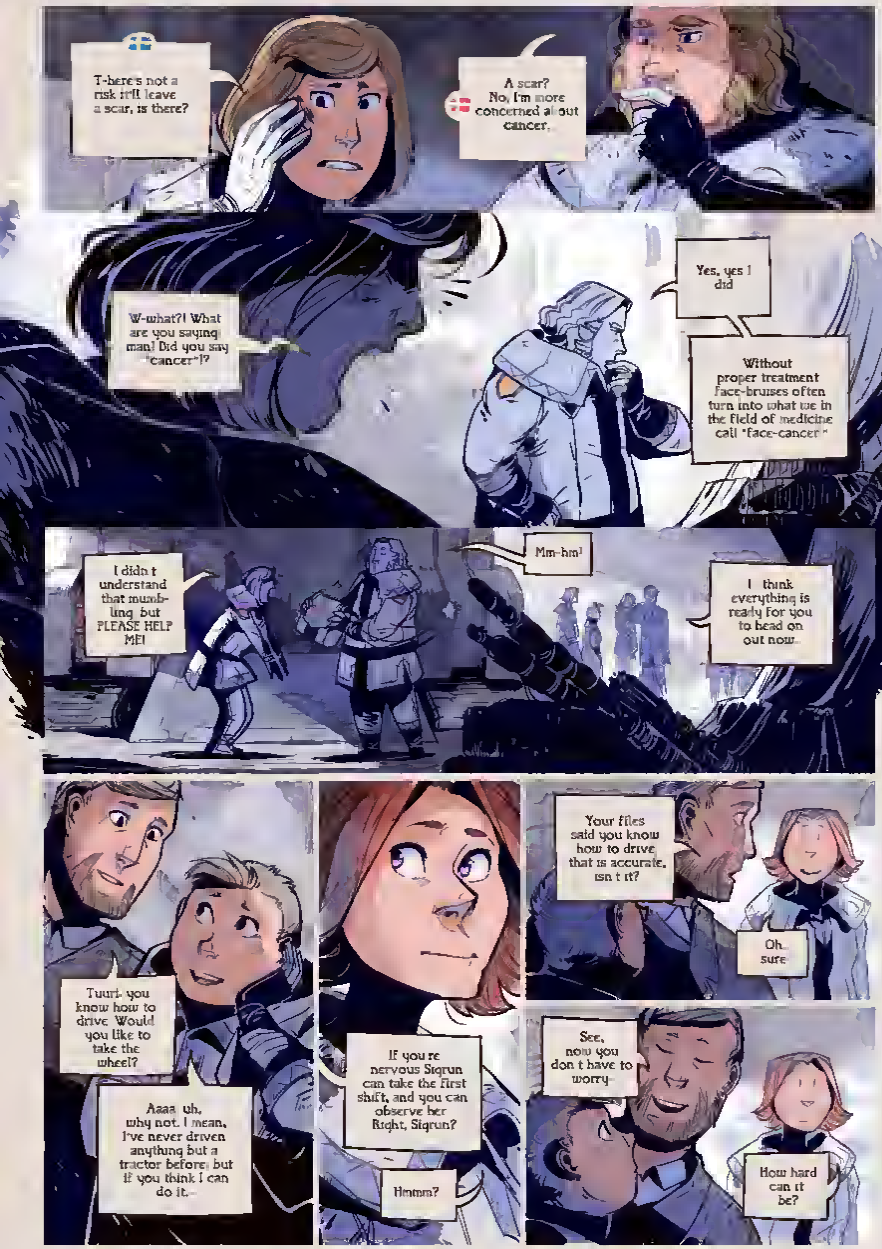

Well— it's pretty nice, I suppose Could be a lot worse
KRONK!
Just wish I hadn't seen those first
"Sigh"
Chin up stubby! I'm sure this one is as sturdy as the rest! Just needs a fresh coat of paint!
You're probably right
...and you'll be able to head out as soon as we've got everything thrown on board

CLONK!


Broken.
It was broken before me got here
Shoot! I knew we should have asked to see pictures from both sides before paying for it!
Your face is bothering you.
E-excuse me?
The bruise on your face. I could apply some ointment to help it heal faster
Look, no offense to your people or your language, but you'll have to speak far slower and clearer if you want me to understand you.
Your FACE! DO YOU NEED HELP FIXING YOUR FACE?!
What?! I'm fine with my face, thank you very much!
Very well then. Let me know if you do change your mind
Anyone here waiting for two crates of food supplies?
That's us!
Did..
..that man just call me ugly?


KURA
...
What do you think Onni is doing right now?
Crying.
...No.
SHROG


Could you try contacting him just to make sure he's alright?
We're really far away from home
Try!
...I'll try. Can't promise anything.
Hee!
Hehee hehe~
...huu?
My face! What is going on with my face!
It's a bruise.
You can get a bruise on your FACE!?


T-there's not a risk it'll leave a scar, is there?
A scar? No, I'm more concerned about cancer.
W-what?! What are you saying, man! Did you say "cancer"!?
Yes, yes I did
Without proper treatment face-bruises often turn into what we in the field of medicine call "face-cancer."
I didn't understand that mumbling, but PLEASE HELP ME!
Mm-hm!
I think everything is ready for you to head on out now.
Yuuri- you know how to drive. Would you like to take the wheel?
Aaaa- uh, why not. I mean, I've never driven anything but a tractor before, but if you think I can do it.
If you're nervous Sigrun can take the first shift, and you can observe her. Right, Sigrun?
Hmmm?
Your files said you know how to drive that is accurate, isn't it?
Oh, sure.
See, now you don't have to worry.
How hard can it be?

Let's get you all on board, then!
CHILD WHAT FRISSY SILLINESS IS THAT?!
I know, it looks unflattering, but I'm not going to risk contracting face-cancer!
For Fanden! Face-cancer... I thought I'd never have to hear nonsense of this sort again!
YOU THERE!
I KNEW I RECOGNIZED YOU FROM SOMEWHERE!
WHAT ARE YOU SNOOPING AROUND HERE FOR?! I'M PRETTY SURE I FIRED YOU AGES AGO!
Oh no, he's one of ours now!
...I see Carry on then
I can't thank you all enough for being part of this magnificent mission! But now... Let's all get rich!
And stay safe, Emil! Promise you'll come back in one piece!
Yes, yes Mind my injury, please
Now you make sure to take good care of the young ones, Sigrun
Aye-aye, maam! Whatever you just said, ina am!
RNRR!

Remember to call us in the morning if the radio works! Now! onwards you brave souls!
VRRR
CRASH
Oh well I suppose I don't know how to drive...
We should switch
Try not to break the bridge on your way over hehe!
KRAK
Seriously please don't break it

I'll be expecting at least a welcome back party with presents when we return just so you know
This was a terrible idea and everything will go wrong
H-honey don't say that!
It'll be okay.

The Nordic languages

Indo-European · North Germanic

Icelandic

An archaic language that greatly resembles the old Norse spoken by the ancient vikings. The scandinavian languages were also born out of old Norse, but are no longer mutually intelligible with Icelandic.

Indo-European · North Germanic · Scandinavian

Danish, Norwegian, Swedish

Knowing one of the scandinavian languages is enough to understand all three, especially in written form. Spoken Danish can prove tricky to grasp particularly for Swedes, but Norwegian bridges the gap between Danish and Swedish.

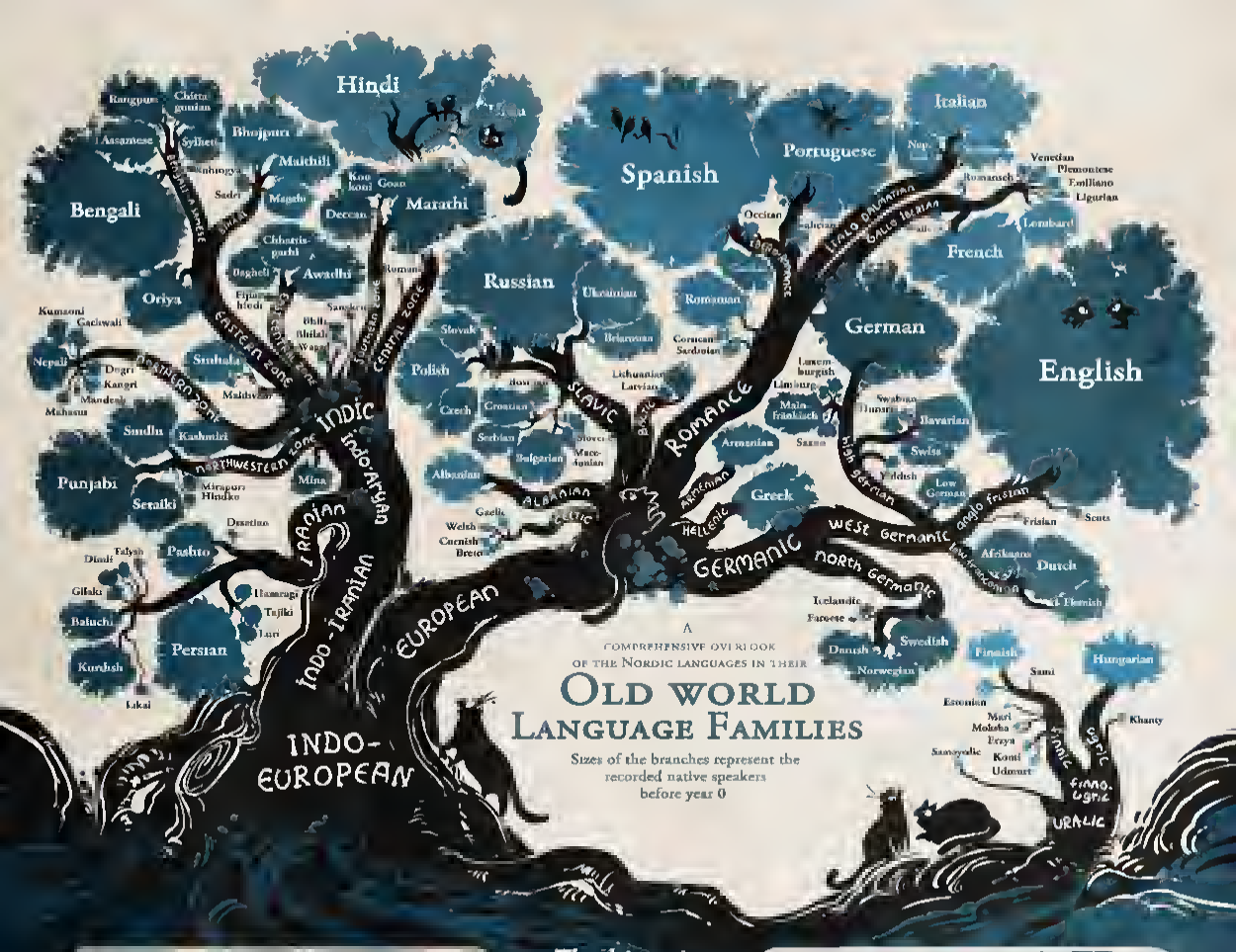
Uralic · Finno-Ugric · Finnic

Finnish

Not from the same language family as the other four Nordic languages. Absolute gibberish.

English	Icelandic	Danish	Norwegian	Swedish	Finnish
home	heim	hjem	hjem	hem	koti
language	tungumál	sprog	språk	språk	kieli
north	norður	nord	nord	nord	pohjoinen
island	eyja	ø	øy	ö	saari
strong	sterkur	stærk	sterk	stark	vahva
weak	veikur	svag	svak	svag	heikko
day	dagur	dag	dag	dag	päivä
night	nótt	nat	natt	natt	yö
snow	snjór	sne	snø	snö	lumi
wind	vindur	vind	vind	vind	tuuli
fire	eldur	ild	ild	eld	tuli
troll	tröll	trold	troll	troll	peikko
cat	köttur	kat	katt	katt	kissa

For comparison's sake the old world language English. Related to Icelandic and the three Scandinavian languages.



A COMPREHENSIVE OVERLOOK OF THE NORDIC LANGUAGES IN THEIR

OLD WORLD LANGUAGE FAMILIES

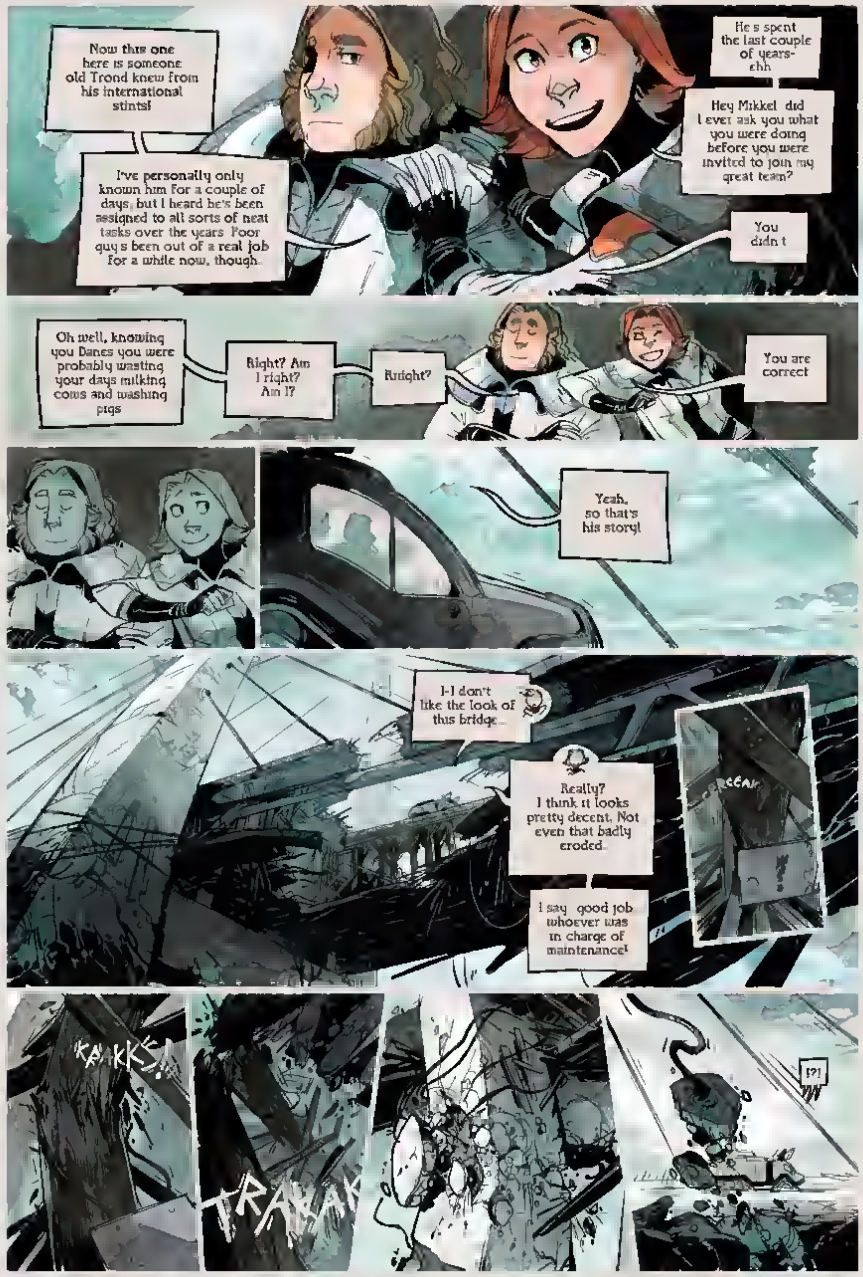
Sizes of the branches represent the recorded native speakers before year 0

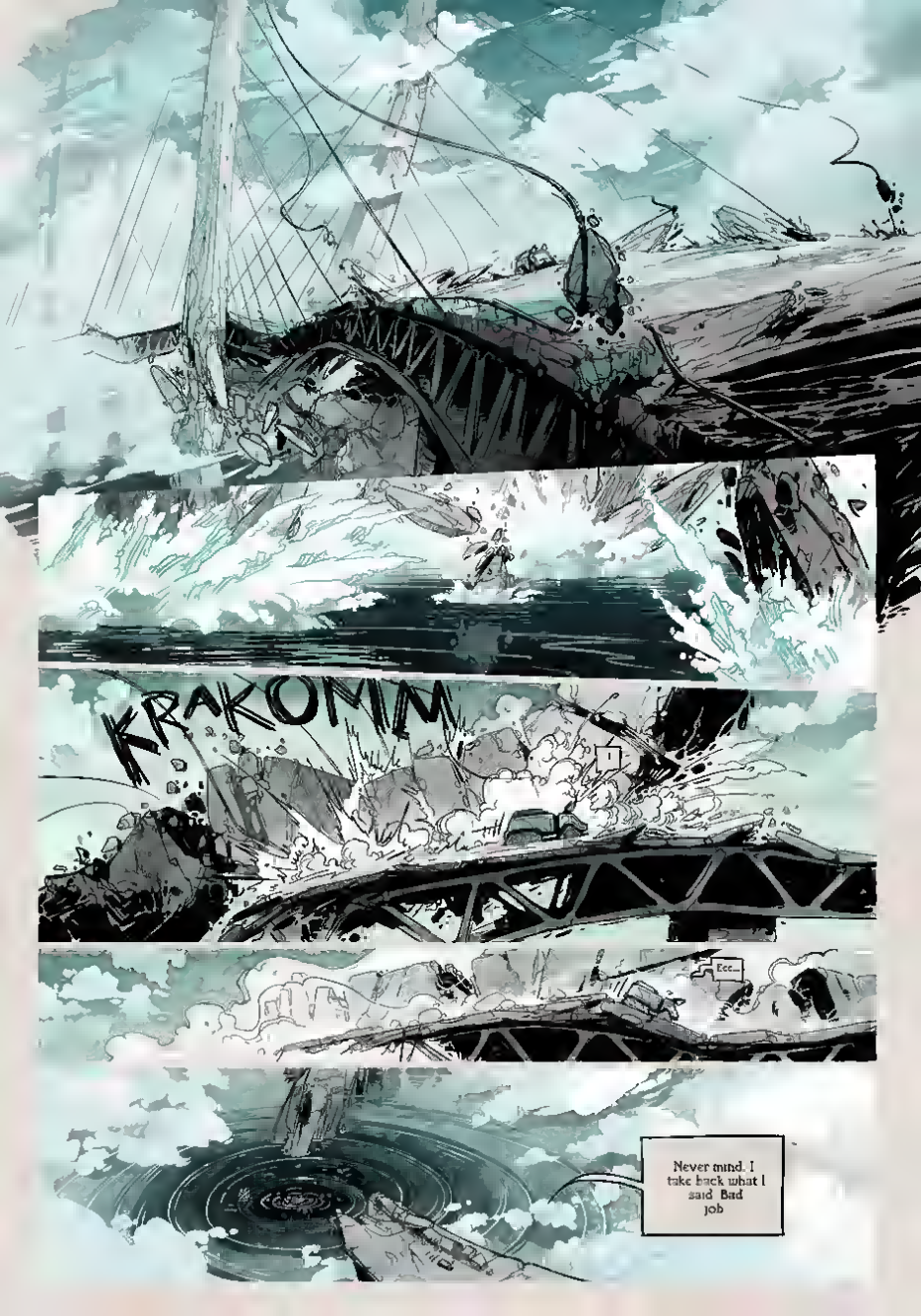
Hi
Blurgh?
Blaargh!
Grrrss
Ynnh!
RNRRNRNRNR

Hey, you Tuun wasn t it?
Y-yes! That s me!
How old were you again?
Oh, I-
Like
16?
Ah haha!
She's 21.
Oh, good!
And here I've been thinking that you were some kid with barely any experience at all. I m glad I was wrong!
Y-yeah...

But what about you?
What about me?
You know, with your background...
I've been wondering how someone with so much experience would end up on a job like this
End up? Hah, honey I didn't "end up" anywhere. Who wouldn't want an opportunity like this?
Me being chosen was simply a matter of being an outstanding warrior!
...and that's why I need to borrow someone from your troops
Of course! Anything for you, Trond!
Who would you like?

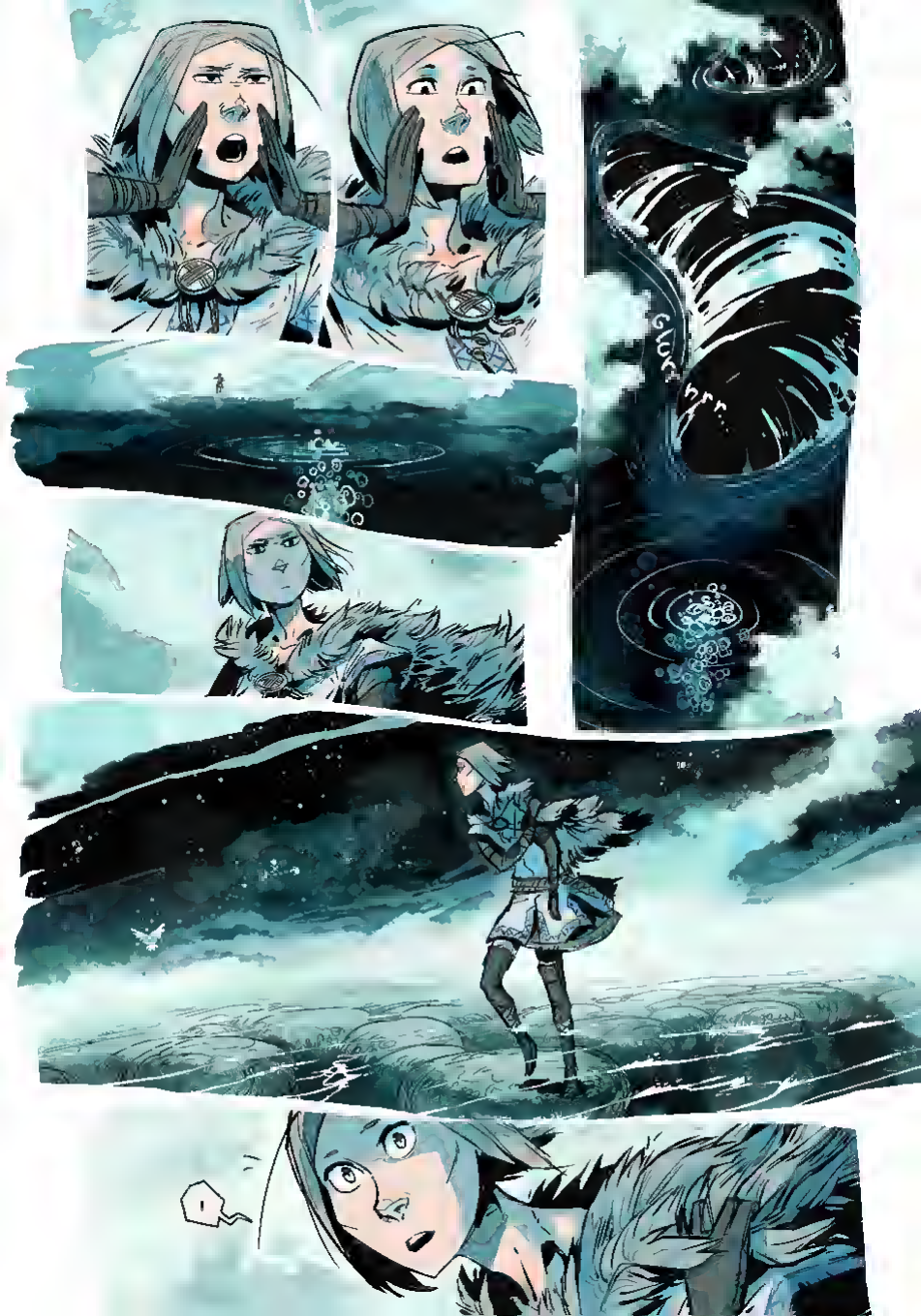
You deserve the very best after all you've done to serve our great country!
Anyone will do really. They're likely to be the most competent one of the crew regardless...
Nonsense! I insist take your pick! We can easily spare you one of our captains now that troll hunting season is over. And after the summer we've had it'll be like a relaxing vacation for them!
I wouldn't even be surprised to see someone volunteer
Actually I would-
SMACK!
MEH!
I volunteer!
I want to go! Pick me! Dad!
Mom! Dad! Mom Me!!
Indoor voice sweetie
DAD!
Alright Sigrun gets to go
YES!
Aww, not fair-
...I would have liked the vacation trip too...
Well.. maybe next time you'll show some initiative and at least raise an arm or something.
and so uncle Trond saw that I was the most best out of everyone there and chose me!


Now this one here is someone old Trond knew from his international stints!
I've personally only known him for a couple of days, but I heard he's been assigned to all sorts of neat tasks over the years. Poor guy's been out of a real job for a while now, though...
He's spent the last couple of years- ehh
Hey Mikkel, did I ever ask you what you were doing before you were invited to join my great team?
You didn't
Oh well, knowing you Danes you were probably wasting your days milking cows and washing pigs
Right? Am I right? Am I?
Right?
You are correct
Yeah, so that's his story!
I-I don't like the look of this bridge...
Really? I think it looks pretty decent. Not even that badly eroded...
I say, good job whoever was in charge of maintenance!
CREAK
KA-KK-S!!
TRAKAK
!?!


KRAKOMM
Eee...
Never mind. I take back what I said. Bad job

Awesome, we're going to drown in the tunnel
Don't be a pessimist Sigrun
It's drained every year when the gate on the other end is secured
Enjoy the tunnel while it lasts, it'll be our last safe haven
Urrr

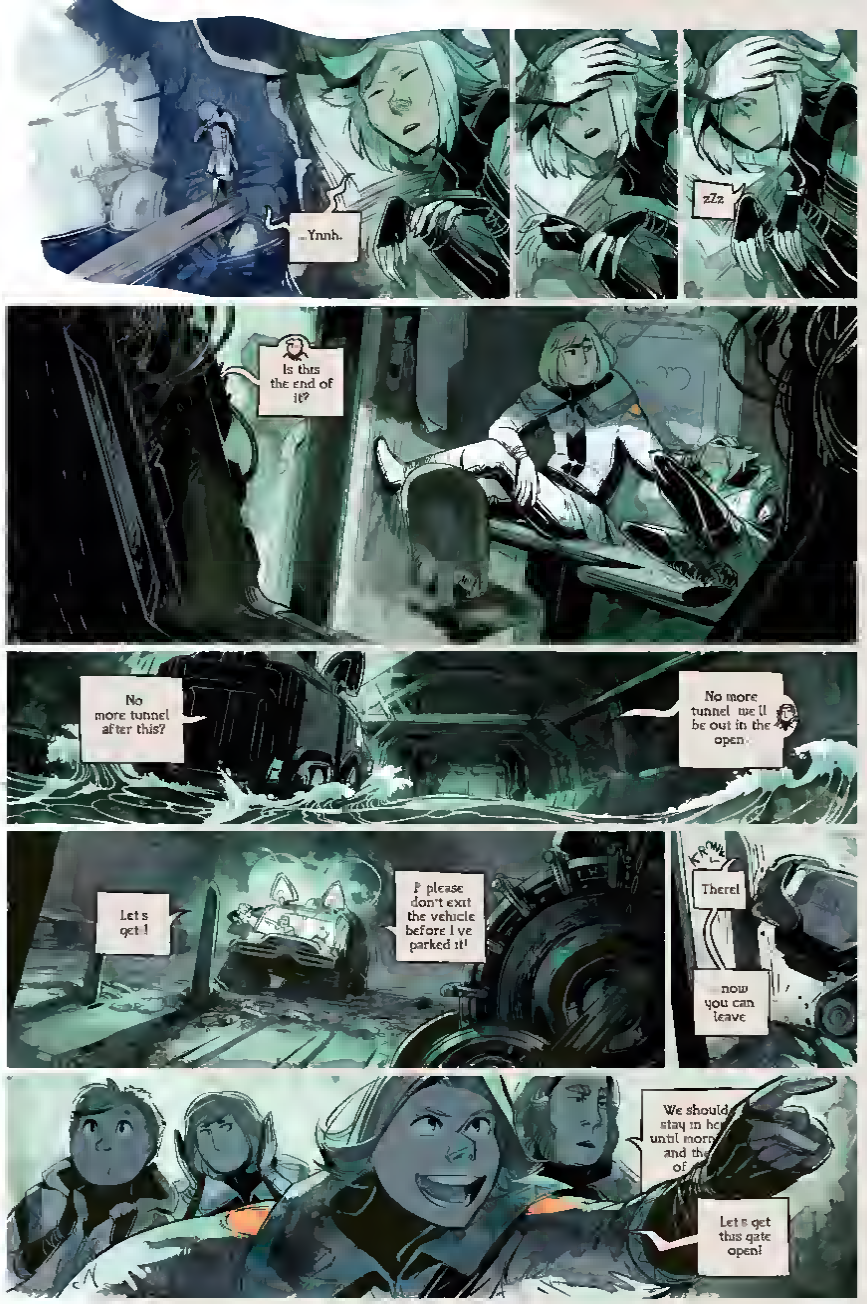
ONNIIII!
ONN!
ONNIIII!


GLUG GRR...
!

Hol-
-uuuf

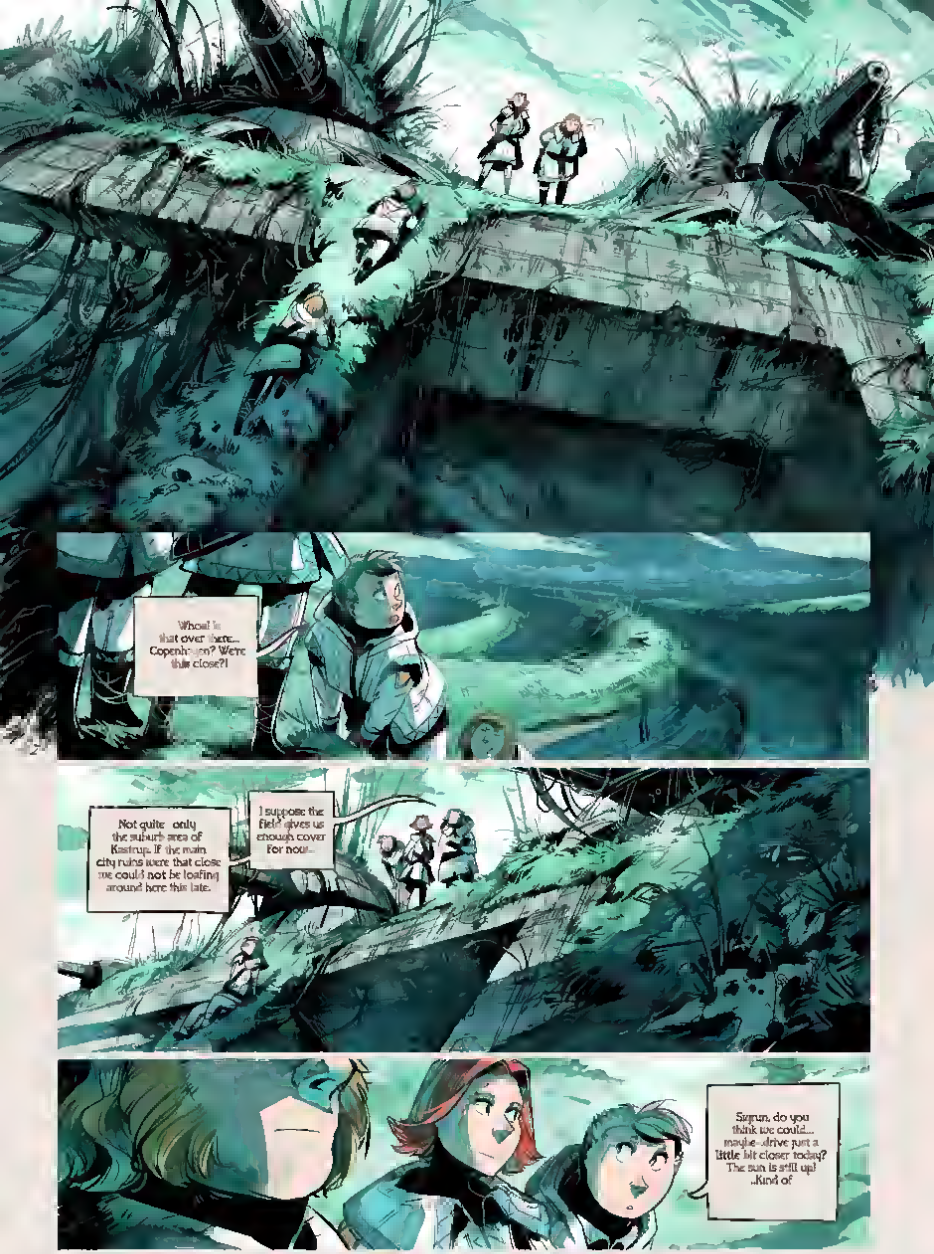
SPLASH
..Hallo?

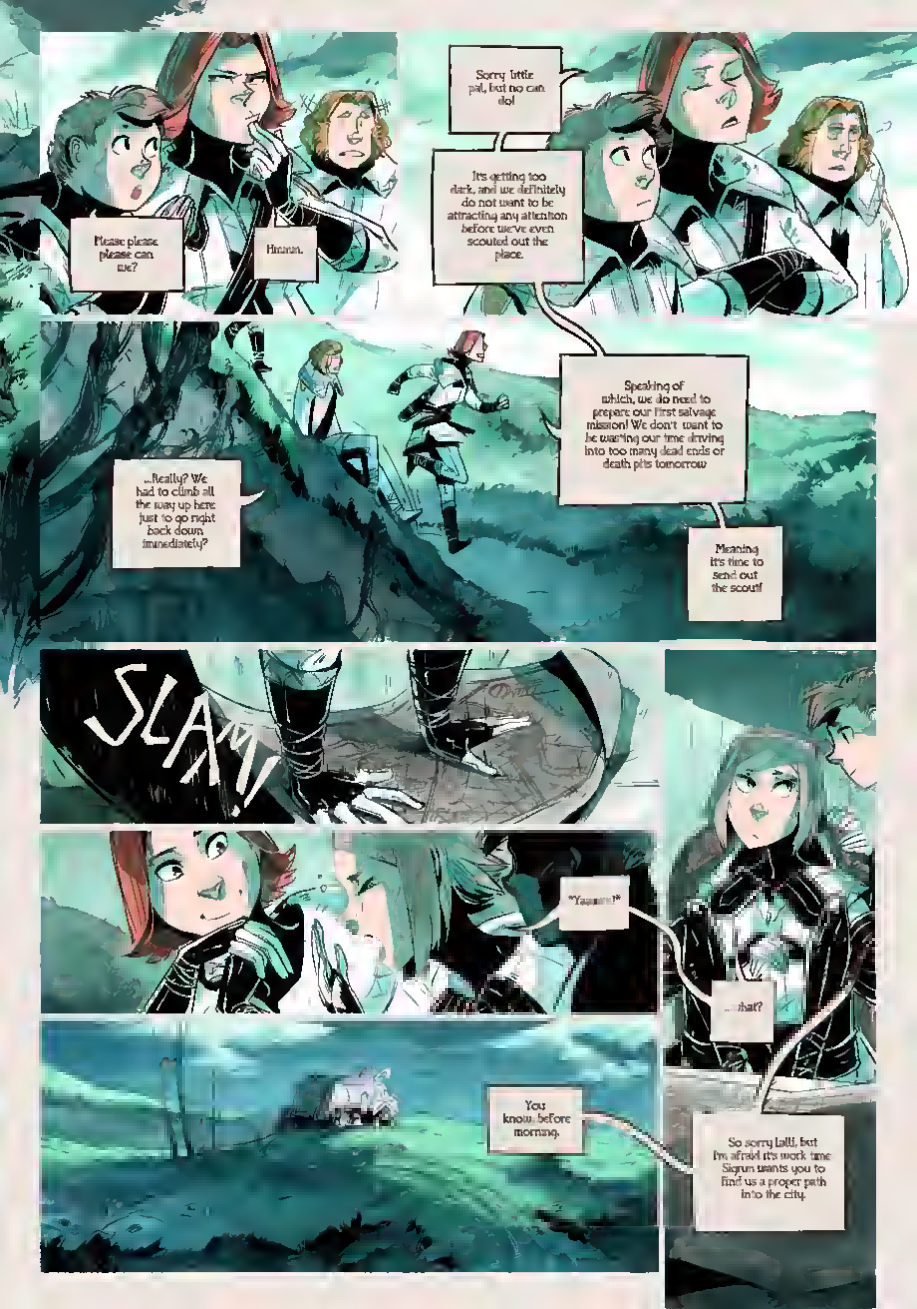
Huuk!


...Ynnh.
zZz
Is this the end of it?
No more tunnel after this?
No more tunnel we'll be out in the open.
Let's get!
P please don't exit the vehicle before I've parked it!
KRONK
There!
...now you can leave
We should stay in he until morn and th of
Let's get this gate open!

Hey, what are those names?
Those?
It's the ones who fell during the great defeat of Kastrup.
Oh.
Yes, very sad. Emil, my right-hand warrior
Lend me your strength!
Alright...
Uhh.

Wasn t there supposed to be some sort of city here?
I m sure it's out there somewhere!
!AGH!
EW! Ew we ew!
Sigrun wait !
Don t be alarmed. this thing has been dead for years
Eeuuuh
I wasn t alarmed. I'm grossed out!
M hm


Whoa! Is that over there... Copenhagen? Were this close?!
Not quite - only the suburb area of Kastrup. If the main city ruins were that close we could not be loafing around here this late.
I suppose the field gives us enough cover for now...
Sigrun, do you think we could... maybe - drive just a little bit closer today? The sun is still up! ..Kind of


Please please please can we?
Hmmm.
Sorry little pal, but no can do!
It's getting too dark, and we definitely do not want to be attracting any attention before we've even scouted out the place.
Speaking of which, we do need to prepare our first salvage mission! We don't want to be wasting our time diving into too many dead ends or death pits tomorrow
...Really? We had to climb all the way up here just to go right back down immediately?
Meaning it's time to send out the scout!
SLAM!
"Yaaaaay!"
...what?
You know, before morning.
So sorry Lalli, but I'm afraid it's work time. Sigrun wants you to find us a proper path into the city.

See the red marks? Those are all locations that could contain a worthwhile amount of books.
...and afterwards a safe place to retreat to and set up camp at, tell him that.
And I want him back around daybreak, we should leave as soon as the sun is up.
So if you could find a couple of alternatives that look reachable and explorable within our one-day range, that would be great.
Oh, and explain to him that the lines on the map mean roads.
After that we need a good retreat, not that we can easily drive to. Well before dark, I'd hope.
And Sigrun wants you to be back around daybreak. That's all.
Okay.

Do you have anywhere you could put this on you?
I don't carry maps.
You... should. Do you even know where we are?
I know where we are.
Where?
A weird, scary foreign country.
...Uuhhh...
KLANK
Actually, Lalli, I really don't like this.
You shouldn't have to explore a completely new place in the dark. You'd better do it in the morning, we can wait!
THUNK!
I'll ask Sigrun if-
If you're talking to your cousin you should know that he already left.
And now?
Well, how about...
...bedtime? Don't know about you, but I enjoy a good sleep before a troll hunt

Uh, Sigrun? Should we really let him out alone like this?
You've never worked with a scout before? Being alone is what they do!
Even if you offer to tag along they'll just run away from you. As if you're some crazy lady!
Mhm.
Don't you worry, Emil. He'll be back before you even get out of bed.

5

zZZzz
BEEP BEEP
BEEP BEEP
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH

SCRITCH SCRITCH! SCRATCH!
KLAK
Alright!
The door's open!
You can come in!
SCRATCH?
Scout's back.
Thank heavens..
Good. Stay put, I'll make sure he's decontaminated.
Eee!
SCRATCH SCRATCH SCRATCH!
SLINK
SHISHI

I'm so relieved to !
Stop right there Tuuri!
Don t remove your mask yet you don t know what filth he might have gotten on himself before he came in!
Oh come on what do you think she'll do run over and lick the jacket?
I'm pretty sure nobody in the history of humanity has become infected just by breathing nearby possibly compromised clothing
Doesn't matter It's protocol It's either this or we make him stand outside in the sunlight for an hour
PSH! P-H!
CLICK!
MMM
Good enough
I'll go get our breakfast off of the stove
Nothing better than breakfast with a new team!
I hope you're ready to decipher your cousin's report for us

... then I tried to get to this place but this and that and those roads are all blocked ..
...this one here has a thing in the middle of it our car-thing won't fit past it
And that road there was weird you should cross it off too
The end. I didn't go further
zZz
If you want my opinion
I've decided. Let's go to that place
Spot number 24- what do we have over there?
Mmm, let me see...
"Number 24 community space with a small private library. Possibly high value collection. Possibly junk. Remember to ask Torbjörn to research more."
So— might not be a great place for books, but-
No matter! It has a nice exit route that's what's important
Because trust me- we might need to make a very hasty retreat once me and Emil are done looting the place! Right buddy?
...Right?

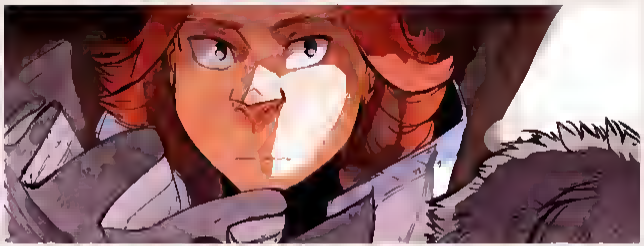
zZz
Mikkel try to get a radio call in to base let them know what's up
Sure.
Eirik get yourself ready for action!
Hey
Good job
munch munch
I probably should have asked you earlier where are you at killing-wise? Ever faced off a troll close up?
Ukh.
.. o-of course I have!
Once
But it was really big a giant! I punched it right in one of its faces!
Good man! That's the proper way to do it!

click!
Well?
No luck the connection around here is atrocious
We'll have to try again from somewhere else
Oh, well! Then let's GO!
Aye-aye!
MMRR
MUNCH MUNCH
Hm..

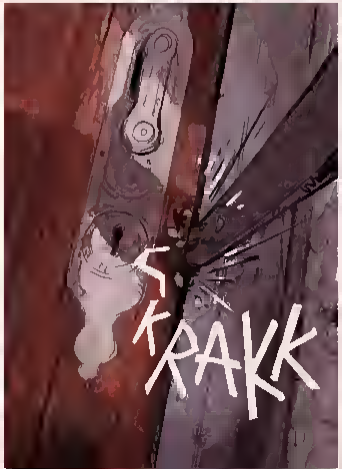
Um. Is this from when you people tried to reclaim your land, Mikkel?
Yes, this is as far as we got. These defence mounds here are officially a decade old.
They weren't of much use, to be honest. The winter was too mild, and the noise we made clearing the airport nearby eventually stirred too many things in the city. All our defences were taken out during the span of a single night.
Wo , yeah.
I didn't un erstand most of that, but w at I did understand was...
...sooo lame.
...
A lot of good people I knew died...
Oh, uh, right. I mean...
...n no offense?
Hmh.
Did you work here?
During the time of the attack. I mean I know you served in the army around that time.. but...
Oh, oh no I did serve here- but I was-
hrrhrm
-relocated a week before that fateful day.
Hahah!
That means he was fired right?
Either way- we're the first humans venturing this far since the dawn of our time.

KADW
Hmm...
Hmm-hmm...
...ah!
BK 76121

A-am I driving okay?
Should I drive slower?
You know to make us less noticeable?
Nah. This is fine.
Drive as fast as you can and try to stick to the sunny side
The weather is good, cool and crisp. Anything we wake up will be too groggy to leap right out at us
By the time some grossling might get the great idea of trying to attack us we'll be long gone
Out of sight, out of mind!
And if something does start following us me and Emil will jump right out and take care of it!
Isn't that right Emil?
Uh-huh
Yeah



Come on.
Let's go open this treasure chest.


RAKK

KRAK KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK
KRAK!
Great job!

You stay there. I'll make sure the place isn't a total death trap
I'll be back in a heartbeat
Well?
Looks clean enough. I don't see anything that points to a nest. We can carry on

First ground rules!
Number one we stay together! No wandering off on your own and getting lost in there.
Number two firearms are our last resort weapon. A cold blade through the brain is just as effective as any bullet, and most importantly won't wake up the whole block
If your life really depends on it sure, dish out some lead. But that also means the gig is up and we all better start running. Out and to the tank! Got it?
Got it
That's all the rules! Stay together. Blade before bullets! Let's go!
I believe I should stay outside
Oh good... you think so too. I wasn't sure if I should bring this up
I mean, you would be useful for carrying whatever we find. But with your size I'm worried that you'll get stuck in some doorway and block us from getting back out
Yes, thank you for your concern.
I personally think someone should stand guard out here and also keep Tuuri company
Great, so we have many good reasons to leave you out here.

Glad we got that resolved, bye now!
Let's get that bandage off, we wouldn't want you to be distracted by it in there.
Off? You think that's wise? It's only been on for a day...
I really don't want to risk cancer.
Bruises don't cause cancer...
...Huh?
I made that up.
It was a joke.
What?!
It's not a joke if it's not funny!
Well, I was amused.
It wasn't funny!

Ugh.
What?
Smells a little funky in here.
I don't really know what that is supposed to smell like.
I smell gross, mold old house. Is that what you smell? Gross, moldy old house?
...Maybe?
I haven't exactly spent much time inside any of these....

Sigrun! I found some!
Careful! That's practically money in your hands!
PHOHH
PSSSHH

You broke it! You hapless ham-fisted [illegible]!
It was already broken
The whole thing has turned into mush.
Into— garbage!
Hmm... looks like you might be right about that
It's all garbage
Mushy useless absolutely worthless ga[illegible]
Enough!
We came all the way out here for nothing. It was all in vain.
Oh, pff.

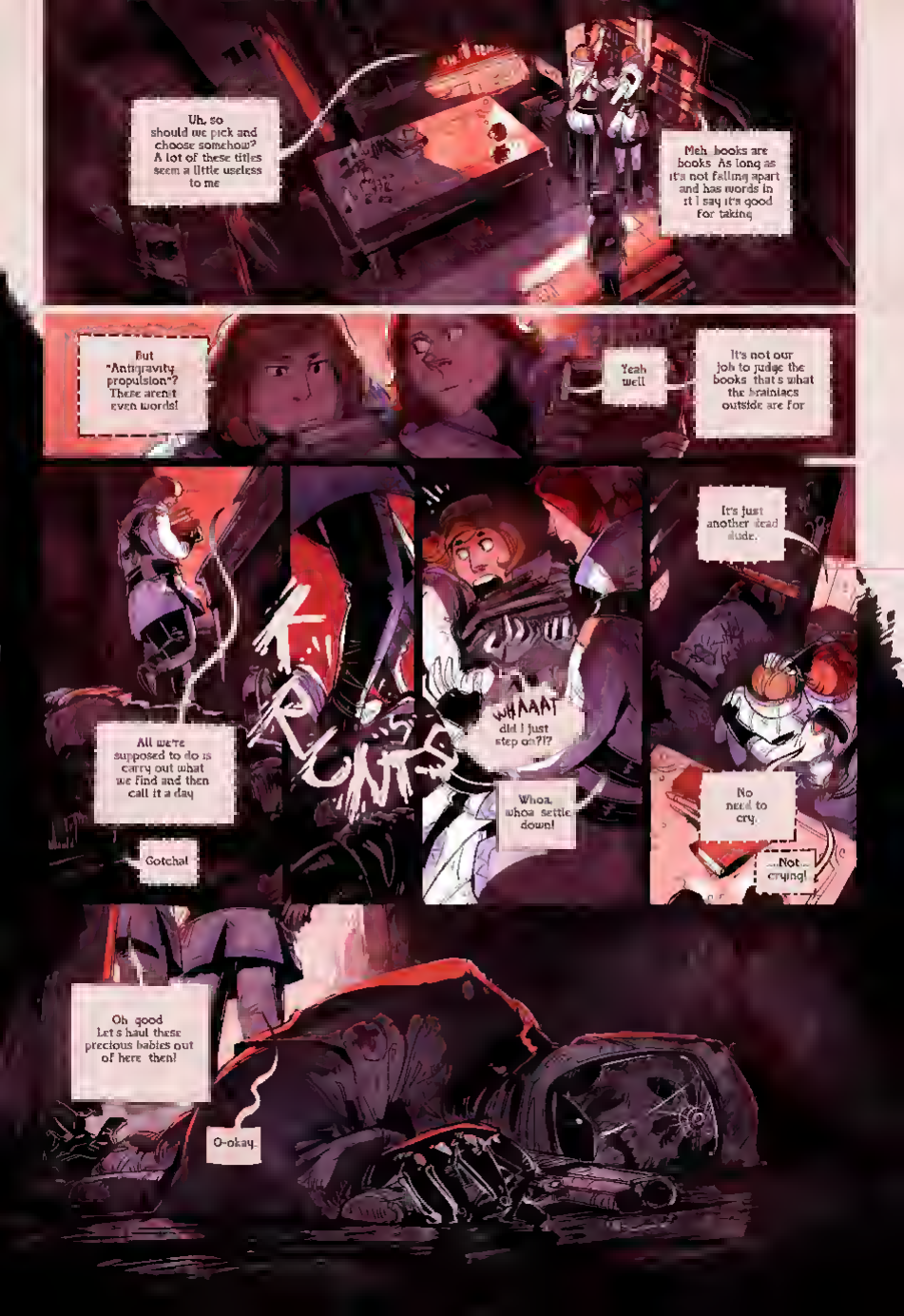
You really thought this is it? There's no way one book case would ever have counted as a "private library".
There's got to be more of these in there somewhere.
The best junk is always hidden deep inside these sort of places anyway
Away from all that nasty moisture outside
So chin up, I guarantee we'll find some decent enough stuff
Hopefully stuff without other stuff growing on it

Uh-
-ah-!
S-Sigrun!
W-we should we should leave. Let's leave!
No, no. It's okay. Calm down.
What do you mean "it's okay"!? You saw that, didn't you!?
It's nothing to worry about
How is it not?! There's like a ton of dead-!
SMACK

Are you done freaking out now?
Good.
...Yeah...
...wasn't freaking out...
Look, Emil, that's just some shit you have to expect from any kind of common spaces. It's not like people crawling out on the streets to die.
But you learn to ignore it, dead folks aren't dangerous. Just kinda sad.
And this is why we have our little scout with us!
He'll pick up on anything sinister, and as long as he isn't scared we don't have to be.
Does he look scared to you?
I'm really sticking, I can't tell with him.
No... I think that's just tired-.

Good.
"Just tired"
is good.

You were right! I won't doubt you ever again, Sigrun!
Hehee, everything looks nice and dry in there.
Move over and I'll get us inside.
SHIK
SHIK
KRNK
VRRR
I have never been this happy in my life!


Uh, so should we pick and choose somehow? A lot of these titles seem a little useless to me
Meh, books are books. As long as it's not falling apart and has words in it I say it's good for taking
But "Antigravity propulsion"? There aren't even words!
Yeah well
It's not our job to judge the books that's what the brainiacs outside are for
All we're supposed to do is carry out what we find and then call it a day
Gotcha!
RUNS
WHAAAT did I just step on?!?
Whoa, whoa, settle down!
It's just another dead dude.
No need to cry.
...Not... crying!
Oh, good. Let's haul these precious babies out of here, then!
O-okay.

We can empty this whole room before it gets dark!
As long as we don't drag our feet, that is
Lalli don't fall behind!
Mikkel!
Look at what we've got!
I take it you found what we came for, then
Now that's an understatement! Be ready to carry these things around for a good while, we've got plenty more coming!

We'll be right back with the next load!
Oh! Oh! Mikkel! Can I come outside and take a look at the hooks too? Can I!?
When?!
Not yet
Once it's safe according to protocol
That better not mean "never"...
Sigrun this is going to take us forever
I really think we should take Mikkel with us
I bet he could carry this all at once if we gave him a bag
Then we'd just follow him around and protect him!
I don't know I just feel like these old world buildings are so incredibly cramped he'll topple everything over in the hallways
Alright, fine, let's take him with us next time we're outside.

Umm...
Uh... Sigrunn!
I'm pretty sure he's scared now!
He was freakin' out at that hole in the wall!
Hm.

Do you see anything?
We might have got a visitor
M-might have? You're not certain?
Oh, sorry buddy, poor choice of words. We've definitely got ourselves a visitor.
W-we should...
Yes, we really should—
Leave!
KILL IT DEAD
Come on, it fits into an air vent, can't be bigger than this.
Puny little bastard.
And you don't really want to leave all this behind, do you? Flesh like these are rare, you know.
Do you want to leave?
Uh
Um
Unnngh, no, I don't want to leave.
Good, it's settled
Now let's go make sure there aren't any nests still hiding further in. If this thing is a lone squatter it'll be no bigger easy kill.
But we do not want to be juggling more than one of them in a hole like this

Let's split up. Each of us picks one direction to check out.
Excuse me?!
You said rule one was to remain together at all times!
...Really? I said that?
Wow. Forget that. I must have had a crazy moment.
How would we ever get done if we stayed glued to each other all the time?
I-I have some concerns with this arrangement!
Oh, yeah, I just figured out the problem too.
You stay with Lafft.
I bet he doesn't even understand what's going on, we really can't be leaving him on his own.
Oh, hah, yes, that's exactly what my concern was! Poor guy all alone!
I-I'll keep him close by! Got to make sure he doesn't wander off and get lost!
We'll meet back here in fifteen minutes!

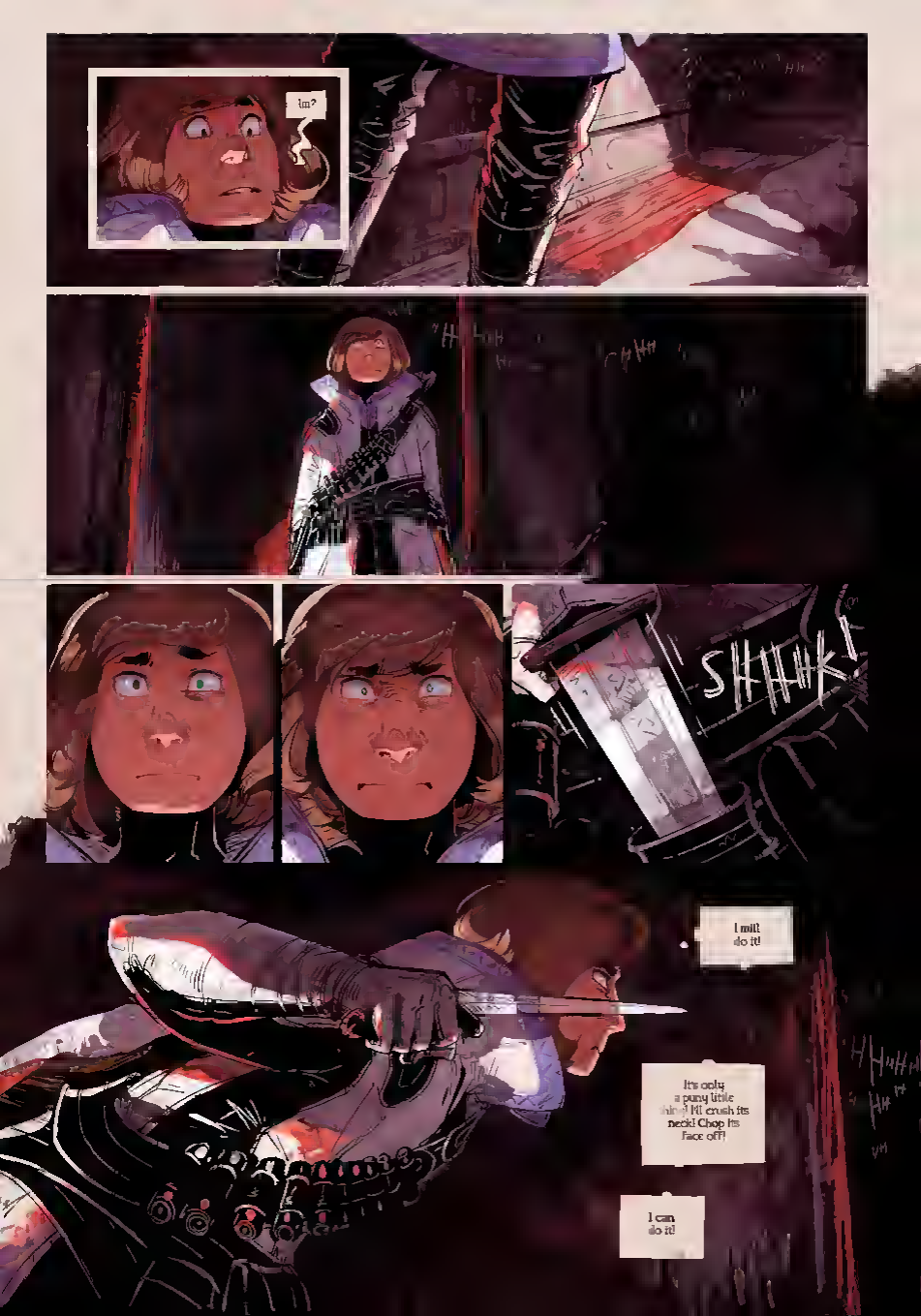
I'll take the death room since you were so scared by that place
Oh? Actually, I...
...really appreciate that
puf
Thank you
Alright Lalli let's get this done fast so that we can
Lalli?
Lalli??!
Forbannade finnjävel Lalli!

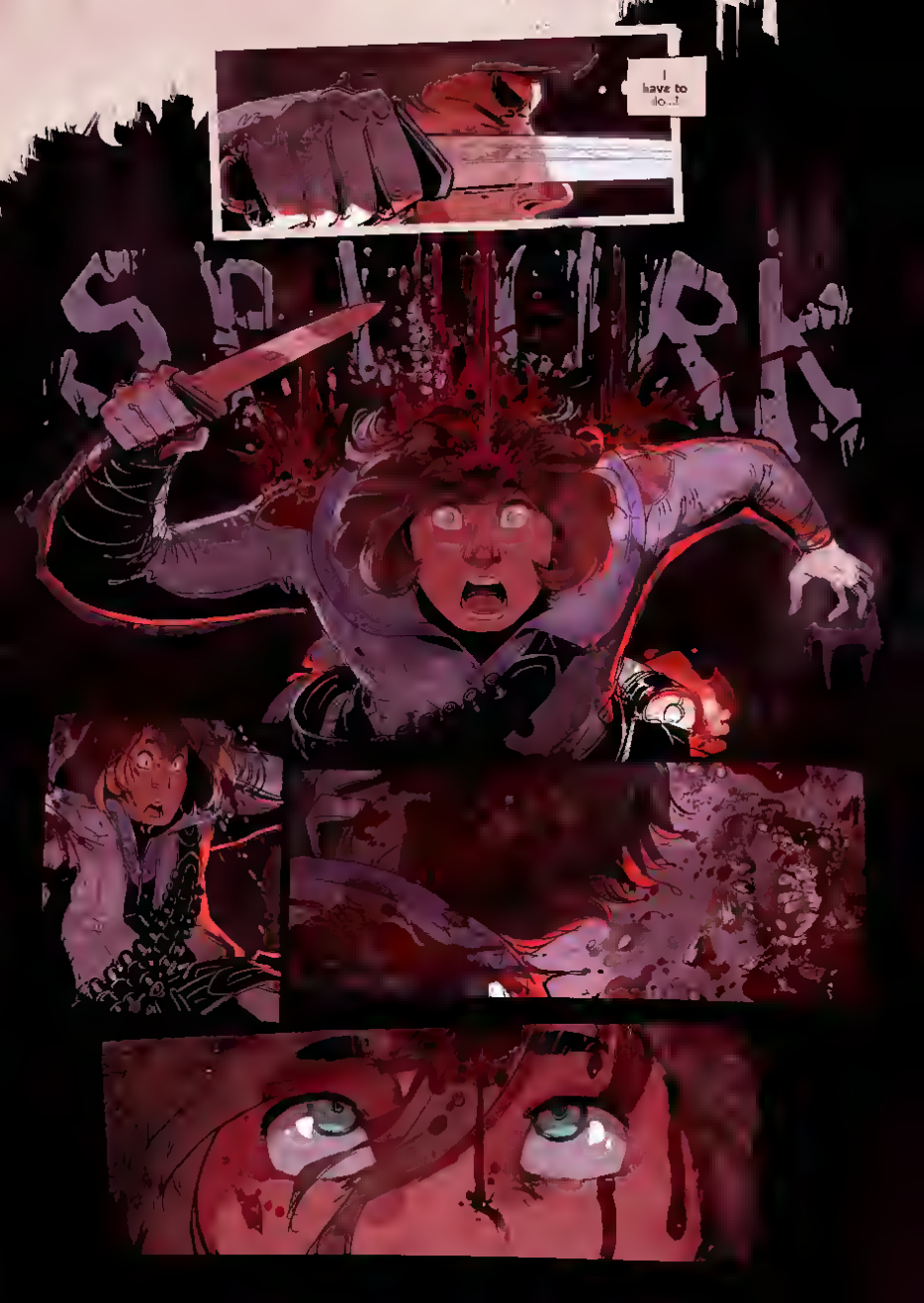
Fine. I'll go alone!
Could be worse
At least I didn't have to go to the death room

VRRRRR
KRRRK

Drip!
Drip
Drip
Drip!
Drip
Drip
Drip
Drip
Drip
RRRRK!

The little Swede was right.
We should leave.
KOCK!
Well then, time to get out of here
And Lalli better show up, because I swear-!
KRK KRK KRK
...
Lal-?


Im?
SHHHK!
I will do it!
It's only a puny little shiv! I'll crush its neck! Chop its face off!
I can do it!


I have to do...!
SHURI

KA-
AK!
PLAMP!
GYAAAH!
EEEEEEE
JANK!

SSSHHHIKK!
SPLAT!
SNAP! SNAP! SNAP!
SIGNUUUN! HELP MEEEH!

UP! Let's go!
T-there's one more back there!
There's probably a squillion of them back there! We've got to get out of this dump!
Before they're all stabbing down our necks!
A- wait!
PLOP!

RRRRRCH!!
PSSSH!
PSSSH!
PSSSH!

KTHUUMMMM!
TUUR!
Start up the engine!
We're leaving!! IMMEDIATELY!!
WHAT?!
Why are there only two of you?!
Where's Latif?!
Wha-? Where is-?!

We have to go back in and-!
LALI!!!
KR
HSH
HOK!
You abandoned me first!

VRRRR
Will you be able to find the retreat spot on your own, Tsun?
Uh... um? I-I think so, yes!
Very well. We'll leave you to it, then.
!!!
WASN'T THAT THE AWESOMEST!?!

I had my doubts- but there's some viking in you after all!
We'll make a great team! You and me and the little forest magic guy!
We'll wreck this old city up real good and take everything I find! WHAT DO YOU SAY? ARE YOU WITH ME!?
HURRGH
I say it's time for us to wind down
..Uuuh..
Now let's get you all washed properly That is imperative.

I'm quite curious, Sigrun...
KASTRUP FORT
N
S
Did you put any informed thought into which books you chose to bring out to me?
Nah.
Books are books, they're all worth something, right? We just took whatever.
Mmm. I was suspecting as much.
Drip
Drip
Drip
How much do you reckon a book about golf is worth?
GOLFSPILLER
the best of 30 days.
I dunno? What's "golf?"
It's a game
Like hide and seek?

No. It's a game where one repeatedly hits a small ball in order to get it into a hole in a field of grass
Oh.
...Yeah, that does sound kinda dumb, I suppose
To be fair these aren't all as bad
This one here, for instance, seems to be rather...
...interesting
Mmm.
I'll definitely need to take a closer look at this one tomorrow
But that's my job!
Don't fuss little fuzzy head! We'll go get you more books!

Now I've seen what my crew is made of... so I say we go hit the really juicy spots deep in the city next!
Really? You really think those two are ready for that? What I witnessed today came across as very disorganized and impulsive behaviour
Well yeah, maybe they're not totally up to speed yet
But nobody died! That's a pretty good sign of potential if you ask me. And from my experience I'd say we've got a pretty nice setup going for us here
You'll see.
As long as we don't get hit by too many curve balls this'll be great!

Sigh
Sitigh

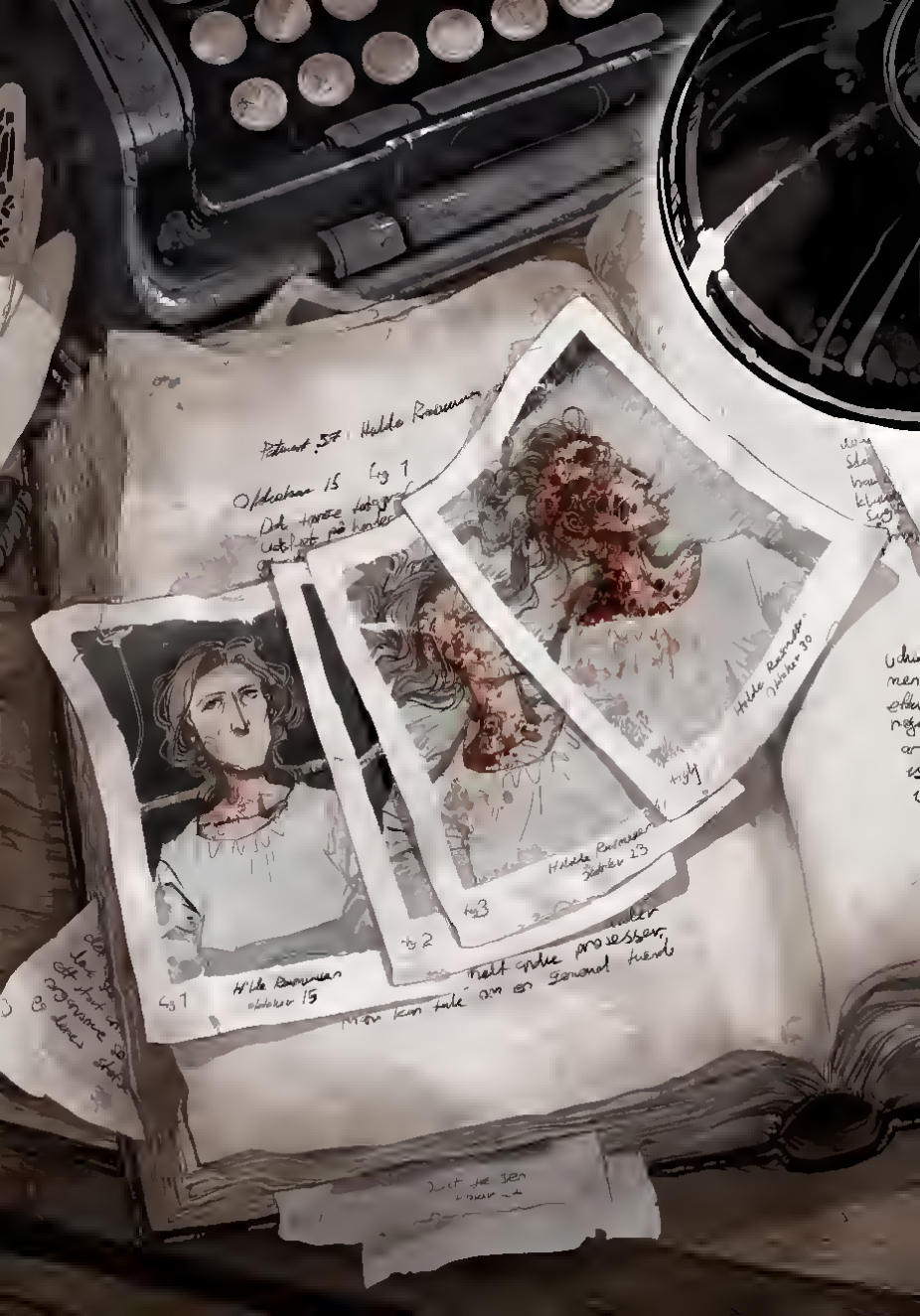
VÆTTUR – VÄTTE VÆTTE VETTE – MAAHINEN

Classification sub-class of troll, behavioural pattern

These seldom seen beings do not present the apparent aggression that most trolls are known for. Instead they remain hidden and carefully observe the routines of those who pass by.

It is generally agreed upon that this is purely predatory behaviour, through which they are patiently learning the daily routines of those who live nearby their nests, and will only claim their prey at the ultimate opportunity. This theory is supported by the tragic amount of people who every year vanish without a trace or any signs of a struggle. Yet there are still some who believe that these are harmless, benign creatures that wish no harm upon humans.

It is strongly advisable to not frequent rocky or cavernous places. If you experience recurring sensations of being followed or watched, please contact your local military garrison and avoid being alone at all cost until the threat has been investigated and neutralized.


Hilde Rasmussen
Oktober 15
Hilde Rasmussen
Oktober 15
Hilde Rasmussen
Oktober 30
Hilde Rasmussen
Oktober 13
Trekt andre prosesser,
Man kan tale om en Second hand

END
of
Book I

Kuulkaa henget hämärtyneet
Tuonen teltä erehtyneet
Pyydän puhtahalla suulla
anon sulosanasilla
Vaeltakaa väljemmälle
kulkekaa jo kauemmalle
muiden kujien kulmille
toisten talojen turuille
click
Sitä lausun jotta käsken
vain väki vaivalloinen
tahikka tehät manoan!
Nostan luontoni lovesta
vieritän verisen kiven,
vieraat varjoihin kiroan!
Did the radio explode now?
No no, everything is fine!
Thank you Lalli!
Uhh.
You've reached Øresund base. Please state your name and the person you wish to contact~

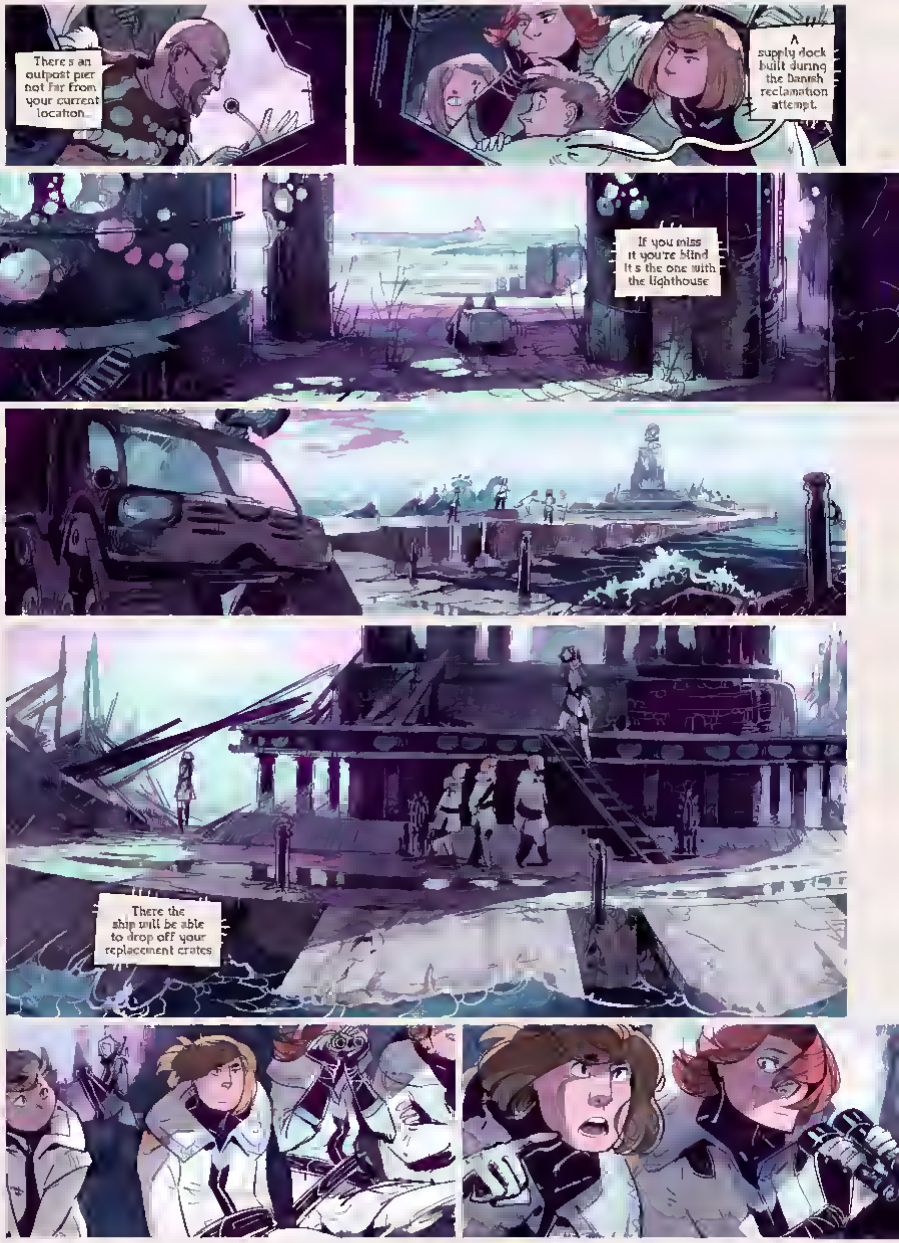
Puhh!
Agreed!
How can it take a man this long to make breakfast!?
Incoming radio call!
For Västerström and company
Anybody waiting for a radio call?
No?
They're
-not dead!
Hello?! HELLO!!
This is Torkjörn, is anybody there!?!
Y yes, this is Tuuri Ow

I'm so glad you're still there! I thought you might be on your way back to Mora already!
Not yet, not yet not until tomorrow the train is still getting some repairs done. But much more importantly
HOW are the books doing? I mean you, how are you doing? Find any books yet?
Great! We found a place with a ton of books! In wonderful condition and all!
We salvaged... ah, twelve of them. That is good, right?
Twelve? I-sure, that's... decent.
We're starving!
I'll check the back for something quick to prepare
Klak
Do you think you could return there and [illegible] up the rest? If there really is a ton of books, then
Oh. No.
Emil set the place on fire. I'm sorry
KRAK
I see

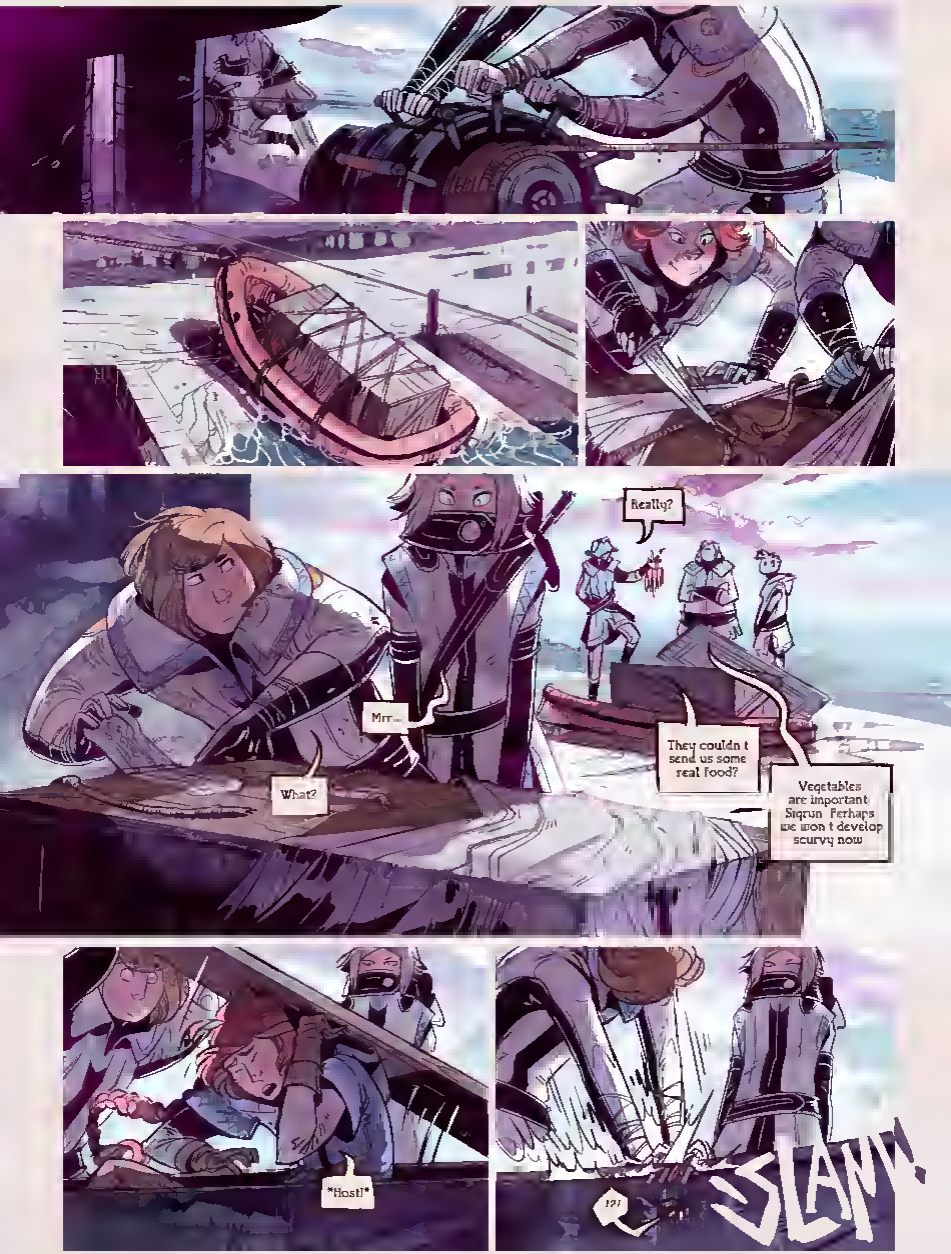
May I borrow the radio for a second?
Oh
Of course go ahead
Hello this is Mikkel Madsen speaking!
Well hello, Mikkel! How are you doing?
I'm quite well thank you
Good good
We're out of food
Uh.. what?
What?!
WHAT?
Yes But we do have a surplus of candles
No panic this can be fixed
Let's do this:
You arrive back here, we restock the supplies, and tomorrow we start anew. Yes, that will work.
Yeah, except no, it won't. The bridge is broken.
You... broke the bridge!?
WHAT?!!
..Nnnno? It was already broken when we got there
N no sir! It was already broken once they got there!
WELL CARRY ON THEN!
Wait! Admiral Olsen!
Hypothetically if we needed to send emergency supplies to the Silent world how soon could that be done?
HOW SOON?! I COULD ARRANGE THAT TODAY! But securing permission from the national security office will take...

-FOUR WEEKS!!
What do we do?! We can't leave them waiting a whole month!
Yes, this is bad. That man won't break form willingly
And I can't blackmail him with anything
But there are many other people that I can.
Wait. If the bridge was already broken, how did you get across it?
I dunno
Let's see...
This ship is too far away to be of any use
I don't know anyone on this one or that one
I don't have potent enough blackmail for this captain
TÚNFISKUR
This one
Yes, this is perfect
We're in luck today
Captain, a call for you
TÚNFISKUR
A Trond Andersen. I think he's Norwegian.
It's a personal call
Mh
Ása Harðardóttir speaking. Keep it short please and thank you

Has old age scrambled your brain? We will not do that
What?
I haven't got a clue what you're referring to
Uh-uh
Aha
Really? Let me remind you of the incident that you
You terrible little !
You !
I'll get it done! After this we're EVEN!
That scheming mountain monkey!
Ma'am?
New coordinates we're making a detour!
And get me someone from the supply room!
If this is all we'll have to eat from now on I want you to shoot me
It's not that bad. Complain once all we have left is what nature provides. Like dirt and stuff
Sigrun! Come! Hurry! They've found a way to save us!


There's an outpost pier not far from your current location...
A supply dock built during the Danish reclamation attempt.
If you miss it you're blind it's the one with the lighthouse
There the ship will be able to drop off your replacement crates

KHATUM!
TSSAK
Tell your Norwegian friend that if he ever contacts me again I will DESTROY him!
Thank you!


Really?
Mrr...
What?
They couldn't send us some real food?
Vegetables are important Sigrun. Perhaps we won't develop scurvy now
Host!
!?!
SLAM!

There's something in the crate!
What?! SHOOT IT!!!
I.. think it was a person!
Then DON'T shoot it and let it out!
Ouowuuu...
WAIT!! Come back! Man over board!
E-excuse me Is this Bornholm?
No Definitely not.
Umm
Im think I maybe got off at the wrong place
Yes I believe it's safe to assume as much

What's your name?
I-ah-I
Reynir.
T-that boat- they-
REYNIR ÁRNASON
Age: 20
Languages:
Profession: Sheep herder
Immunity: No
Info: Is very very lost and very very far away from home for the first time in his life
They'll come back for us, right?!
Move, people! We need to get a message to the base five minutes ago!
There's no use hurrying, they won't be able to-
They better get this nuisance off our hands TODAY!
We can come back for the food later!
Emil, you're in charge of the prisoner!
Aye-aye!
Um
Hi?
He's not our prisoner Emil!
Yes, yes, prisoner, I got it

Raaadio call for Västerström and com pany!
Ah excellent the delivery must have gone well..
HELLO!!? HELP?!!
WE RE OUT OF FOOD AGAIN!
W-what? They didn t drop off the supplies?
One crate filled with garbage food!
And a second one mostly filled with a PERSON who is going to eat ALL OF IT!!!
Uh-but-oh No Nono nooo! What is this? Why is this happening to us?!
Just-hold on! We ll call someone! If it s a civilian I m sure anything possible will be done to get them to safety as soon as possible!

The prisoner is under control!
He's *still* not our prisoner
Wait. did you say he's *not* a prisoner now?
As I said before NOT a prisoner No N-O!
Why- why didn't anyone *tell* me!?
I wouldn't have acted this way!
We're mortal enemies now!
Hello
Hi

So you were trying to get to Bornholm... were you?
Ah, yeah.
It's a funny story actually, I-!
Thank you- there's no need for that. I only came to see how you're coping with staying here
Oh, no they'll notice I'm gone soon They'll send someone for me.
They won't
...What?
You're not immune. There's no system in place for retrieving possibly exposed civilians such as yourself from high risk areas
Merely arranging for a quarantine vessel to be sent here would take weeks
The final verdict will surely be that we're in charge of you until our mission is complete and we can all be safely extracted in accordance with proper protocol
But- but
In short you're stuck here
But
flop!
Yhh!
What about that funny story of yours?
It's not funny anymore
It's stupid
I'm stupid

I just..
...wanted to.
...visit a foreign country Just once
Like my older brothers and sisters do They have the best jobs, and get to travel everywhere all the time!
They re all immune because my parents took part in the Dagrenning program when they had them But not stupid me! (I was probably a mistake)
They barely ever visit home, a couple times a year maybe...
..but when they do, they always have the coolest things to tell!
As a kid I loved the stories
when It raised its ugly head From the waves I grabbed it by its deformed !
But after a while they only made me realize just how boring my life was Really really boring!
..then the whole thing exploded All of it Gone
And I didn't even have the option to leave.
and that's when I knew what death looks like
That s It! Youre moving back home!

Because of that dumb ban on non immune people travelling internationally!
I mean I wouldn't even be a risk after a good quarantine anyway right?
You get it right!?
Yeah
You can leave if you wanna though That ban was lifted
...What?
Yup. Like a million years ago.
I asked mom and dad! Why would they
I think they want at least one of us to stay at home. Just a hunch.
And it's not like the navy would take you or anything. But trade ships can be a bit flaky with their hirings, just sayin'...

But really, going abroad isn't that great You've never even been to Reykjavik maybe try that first or whatever
Of course someone who's been abroad would say that!
After that I planned my escape packed my things and left! I didn't care what my parents thought!
I'm sorry!
zZz
It was awesome! I'd never been more excited in my whole life!

Reykjavik was pretty neat I suppose
Do all these people live here?
But there was no time for sight seeing! I had to get down to the docks and find a ship going somewhere even neater
Only one ship leaving today? I would have liked at least some sort of choice between destinations
Huh
Bornholm Denmark? Isn't that
— the most southern place in the whole world?!
PERFECT! Sun and warmth all the time! Huge colorful flowers everywhere! Palm trees! (Whatever those are.)

Hi hello! Can I have a job? On your boat?
Sorry we're fully staffed
I don't need to be paid or anything! I'm just uh... looking for some work experience
Look we really don't need
If Ólafur had an assistant in the kitchen he might complain a little less
...Can you wash dishes?
I'm great at washing dishes!
Alright then you're hired The registry office is this way
I could barely believe how easy it all was! The very first ship I tried accepted me on board!
...and that's why I'm here! Pretty smart, huh?
Mm-hm yes.
Except we don't have a license to let anyone ashore in Denmark kid. We unload the cargo in the harbour and head back, that's it.

We're not going ashore at all?!
Not even for a second.
But... we're still getting quarantined when we go back! They could at least let us-!
Stop whining. Work.
"Whiiine"
I thought that was it. I surrendered to the boring work and the thought of going back home again
These ones here look good enough to me
We're only unloading two crates now?
That's what Asa said. Let's go fetch a trolley
Huh, we're there already?
I'm so smart!
So so very smart!
Oh, I hope nobody really needed all those tuna cans
And you know what happened next

I'm really sorry.
I promise I won't eat a lot. And if you need help washing dishes or anything..
It's quite alright I'm capable of working around situations such as these
And in a worst case scenario we can always eat you
That's
..Fair. I suppose
Nono no! NO!!! I refuse to keep him! The last thing we need is a useless pet!
I'm sorry! There's nothing else we can do now!
You've been ordered to keep him with you until the Icelanders can send a boat with the necessary quarantine facilities. They promised they'd pick you all up then.
But that's not going to happen anytime soon! Not with winter rolling in..
Maybe try to find a way to make him useful
Another piece of blackmail wasted. On these people..
Yes. He will make an excellent troll decoy!
What? No. what? No!
Please do not do that! Just

...keep him alive. Meanie.

The Dagrenning Program

Have you always longed for a child with immunity to the Illness? A child that will have the freedom ro choose any career they wish? A child that will always be safe, even if the unspeakable were to happen? With the free, safe, government-approved Dagrenning fertility donation program you can have that, even if your own genes won't allow you! The perfect alternative to adoption

The only thing we wanted for our child was the freedom to not live in constant fear of the Illness as my wife and I have been. We were even considering not bringing any children into this terrifying world, but the Dagrenning program gave us another option!

–Jon Runar Jonsson, 39

My husband is immune and we were told that a donor egg would guarantee our child immunity. I was hesitant at first and worried that I wouldn't feel like the real mother, but knowing that I would be allowed to give birth to her myself made me confident. I *am* her real mom, and she looks just like my husband.

–Anna Sigriður Finnsdóttir, 27

Babies are totally cure and I wanted one and, like, it was free? And they said he can't get sick now so that's pretty cool. Sick babies are gross

–Ragnheiður Bjarnadóttir, 20

Freedom to choose!

With over 10.000 donors from every corner of the world* you have the freedom to pick an origin country of your preference, a specific area even, or leave the selection in the hands of the gods. It is your choice!

* Donor samples from Finland are not yet available due to technical and communication difficulties.

Impeccable Quality!

No need to worry about the quality of your sample! We conduct thorough interviews with all donors to weed out clearly unsuitable candidates

–If you know someone who you believe is a fit candidate, please refer them to us–

More than one child?

If you're happy with your first result and wish to expand your family further you will have the option to reserve another set of the same donor material or pick another one

Make an appointment today! Over 50 successful births every year since 67

MEW
MEW
MEW
MEW
MEW
...OP!

SPLAT
SNIF
SNIFF
SNRT!
SNIFF
SPLAT SPL SPLAT

...And wash properly behind the ears. We can't be sure where he's stuck his head last night
Okay?
Remember to be careful with the original
Using a silk touch, I promise!
That's alright
As long as we can still read it—
Wait, what?
Nobody told me we had to read any books!
We don't. I asked Tuuri to make a transcript of one of them for me
Sooo
you're gonna just read stuff— voluntarily, is what you're saying?
It's one book that I happen to find particularly interesting—
Whoah, hey! No judgement here!
To each their own you know?

Alright then. I hope you don't feel left out. I'm sure we'll take you with us again some other time
Okay, see you later
Boo-yaa, you ready? I'm ready! Let's go!
R-right yes!
Please try to be selective and not bring back too much trash!
Okie-dokie!
...Is there anything I can help you with?
...Um...
No actually
Is there anything I can help with? I can be useful I promise!

Thanks, but... maybe later? I don't think I need any help. R-right now, you know?
But I wouldn't need any fancy tasks!
I was thinking I could do things like sweep the floors or dust the... walls?
Or organize papers! I see you have lots of papers!
No really I-
Aww how cute! Is this a picture of you and your brothers?
Uhh yes. Or no! The big one's my brother...Lalli is my cous-
Ah I know! I could help you by fixing the broken frame!
I'm sorry, I shouldn't have promised that I can't fix glass I'm so stupid
H-hey, I just thought of something for you!
Could you fetch my bag from the other room? That'd be great!
Bag?! From over there?!
Y yes go get it!
VURRRRR!

PLAF!
?
Hey. I think the door might be closed
Yeah. I know. The wind blew it shut!
And it has this weird lock that takes a really long time to wiggle open. s-so—
Oh
...Oooh. I got it.
I'm sorry.
I'm sorry.
And I'm sorry to see you wandering around without supervision
You'll stay where I don't have to keep an eye on you, and you might as well get some rest. You clearly didn't sleep well last night
It is very common to have nightmares the first time sleeping in the silent lands
It's fine. I didn't have nightmares. I never do. I don't even dream like... ever.
Everyone dreams when they sleep
The only difference is whether one remembers their dreams or not

Huh. I didn't know that.
M-hm.
Hey wait, I could help you!
That way you'll know where I am and have less work yourself.
No?
Okay, I'll stay here.
Pfhh...

Move aside! I'll punch a hole in
PONK!
PONK!

Ouww...
Alright pretty guy, you had a fancy education, didn't you?
So tell me, where do schools hide their good stuff?
Can't we just look wherever is the least dangerous?
Like where we're least likely to find something that wants to eat us
Don't worry about that
There won't be anything nesting in a place like this
SWOMP!
This is what we in the troll hunting business call a "crap building"
Because it's complete crap, you see

Trust me if anything tries to build their nest in a flimsy place like this the whole disgusting mess will freeze solid once it gets really cold
Aha
But keep an eye out for beasts though
Some of them like to roam around even in daylight especially in overcast weather Feel free to shoot if you see one
10k
?

Oy. Emil check *this* out!
Plastic hooks! Pretty cool find eh?
Sometimes I forget how advanced the oldworlders really were.
KNAPS
?!?
PHOOSH
I... I know what that is!
It's called a *gramophone*!

It's a voice recording! If you put it in a spinning device the sound of a whole book will come out of it!
So even better than plastic books? See if our books were like this even I might read one!
Hah, just kidding! Why would I ever?
Listening to books wouldn't make them any less boring!
Did did you hear something?
Nope
!?!
!?!

Kh-!
Calm down, kid
That's not a beast no need to shoot it
Are you sure?
Of course I am, I know a healthy animal when I see one
Glllp!
You can always tell from the eyes

Aw, shit.
Sorry, pal.
I should have let you shoot one of them. To eat.

Uh
Huh?

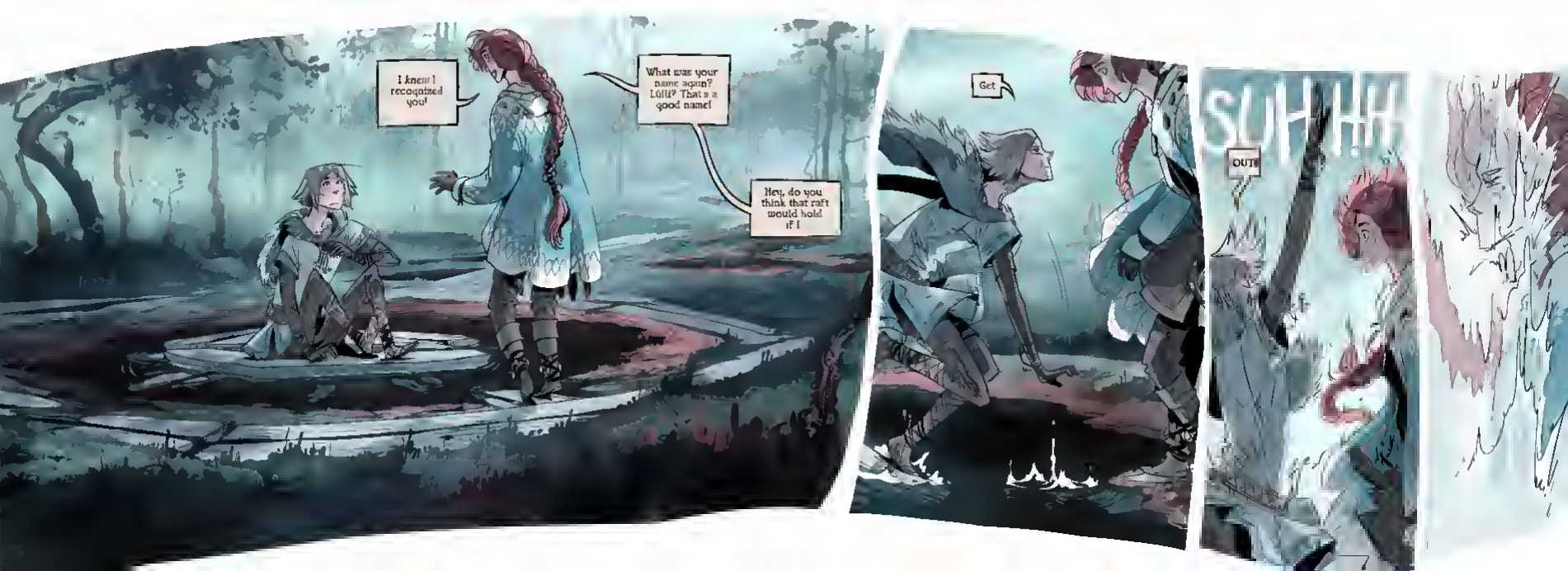
So I do dream!
The big Bang was right! I wish I didn't have to forget this when I wake up.
Maybe if I try really hard to-
Splish
Splash
Huh.
Uh.
Uhh.

splash!
hnk!
GYAAA!!
SPLASH
!?!
nyuuu...
AAAA!
Dreaming is TERRIBLE!!!

SPLA
SLUP!

Vövoff!
Aaruf! You look like one of our dogs back home!
...
I never should have left home
Stupid stupid—
stupid
?

?
Help!
Hey!


I knew I recognized you!
What was your name again? Lolli? That's a good name!
Hey, do you think that raft would hold if I
Get
SUHHH
OUT!

SWOOSH
SMACK!
Okay
I got it! I'll go...
People are such jerks in dreams
Which way did I come from?
...
...This way?

It probably wasn't this way after all.
PONK!
!?!

AAH!
Never have I seen a spirit as weak as you try to ambush me!
Show me your true form and I might be merciful enough to lead you to rest!
I, ah!
Speak up!
I don't know anything, I swear! I'm just a
wait!
You! F from the picture!
T-there's the girl with the short hair! Or it's a ponytail in the picture but she has short hair now and she's kinda round and short and

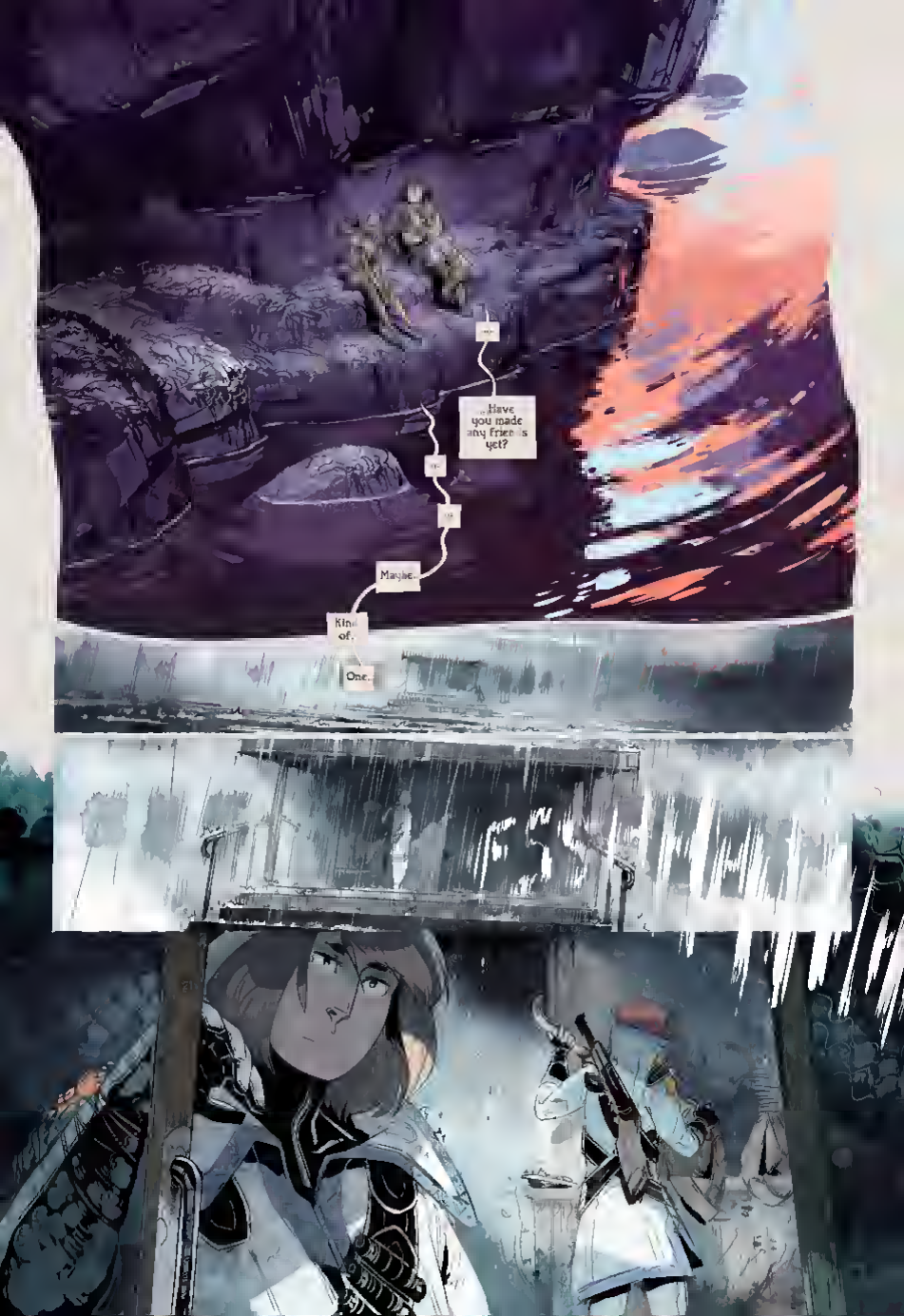
Tuuri that's her name!
You're Tuuri's older brother!
You know her? How? You re—one of her crew mates?
Yyyyes? Yes Yes I am
Is she okay? is she homesick?
She seemed fine?
But homesick. gosh I wouldn't even know I never asked any of them how they were feeling
I'm such a terrible friend..What kind of person doesn't ask someone they meet how they're-
Onni!
Let me in!
Let me in let me in let me-!
HVUP!

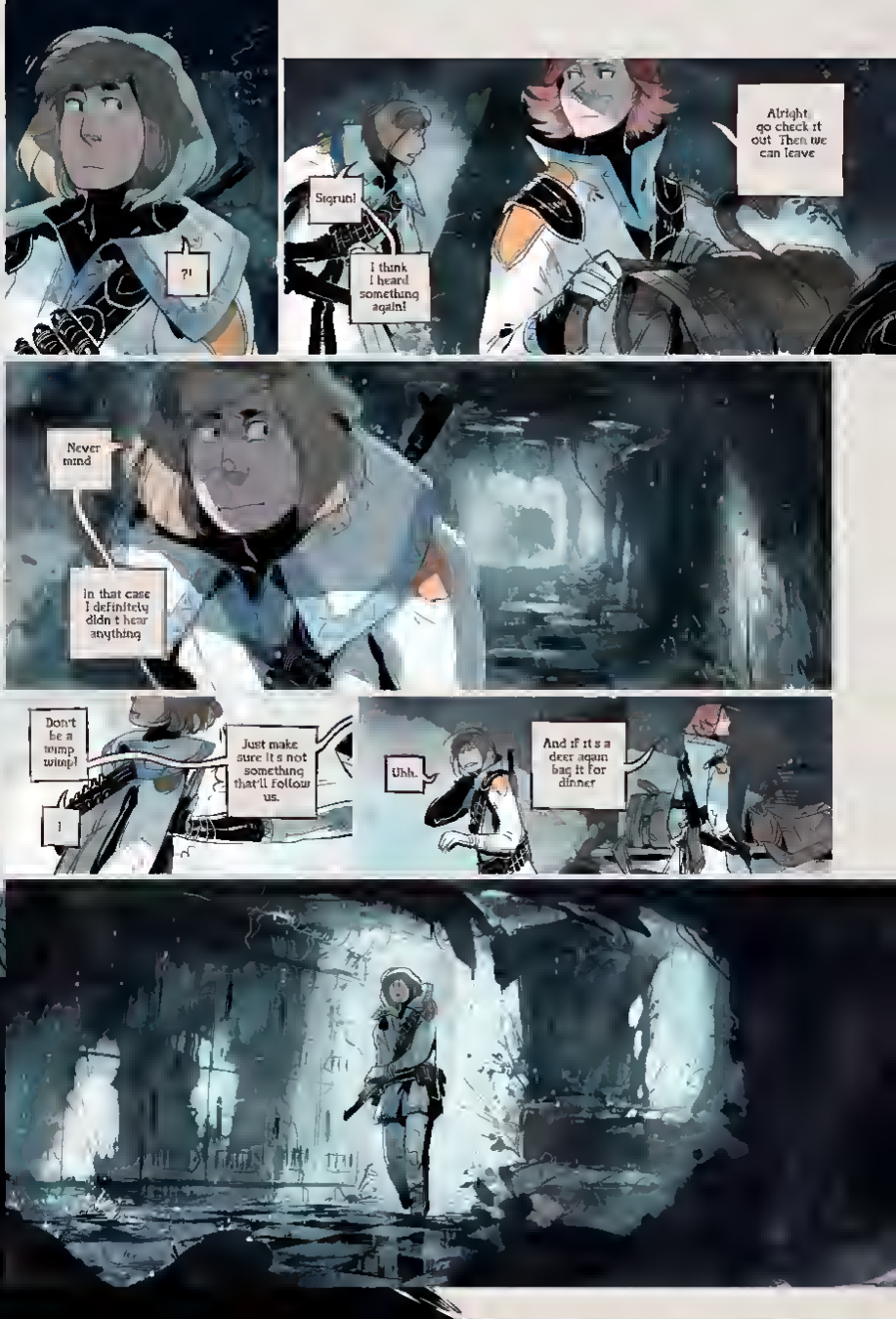
I am glad to see you
Mh
I don't remember what else they're capable of, if anything
I hear they're mostly defenceless..
I doubt you can. That's a thing I've been told they just.. do
A foreign magic
That explains it
How do I keep him out!? I don't like him!
-
your ally was able to help you get here?
He's not my ally, he's some strange foreigner!
And he's rude! He broke into my areal like he did just now to you!

Hmh
Eh
What is going on!? Someone help me!
I am being erased from life!
WHAT?!
Regardless of your ...issues I'm pleased to know there's a second mage accompanying my sister
And I appreciate that you helped my cousin reach me. Thank you
I helped!

I can t walk back now
Good
I want you to stay here for the night either way
You shouldn t cross that place again
I m working on another way to contact you and Tuuri
Why? I can tell Tuuri to order the foreigner to-
No. Im ordering you to not step outside your perimeters again until I say you can. It s not safe.
I-
Don t argue

...
...It's looking for us again.
Sit.

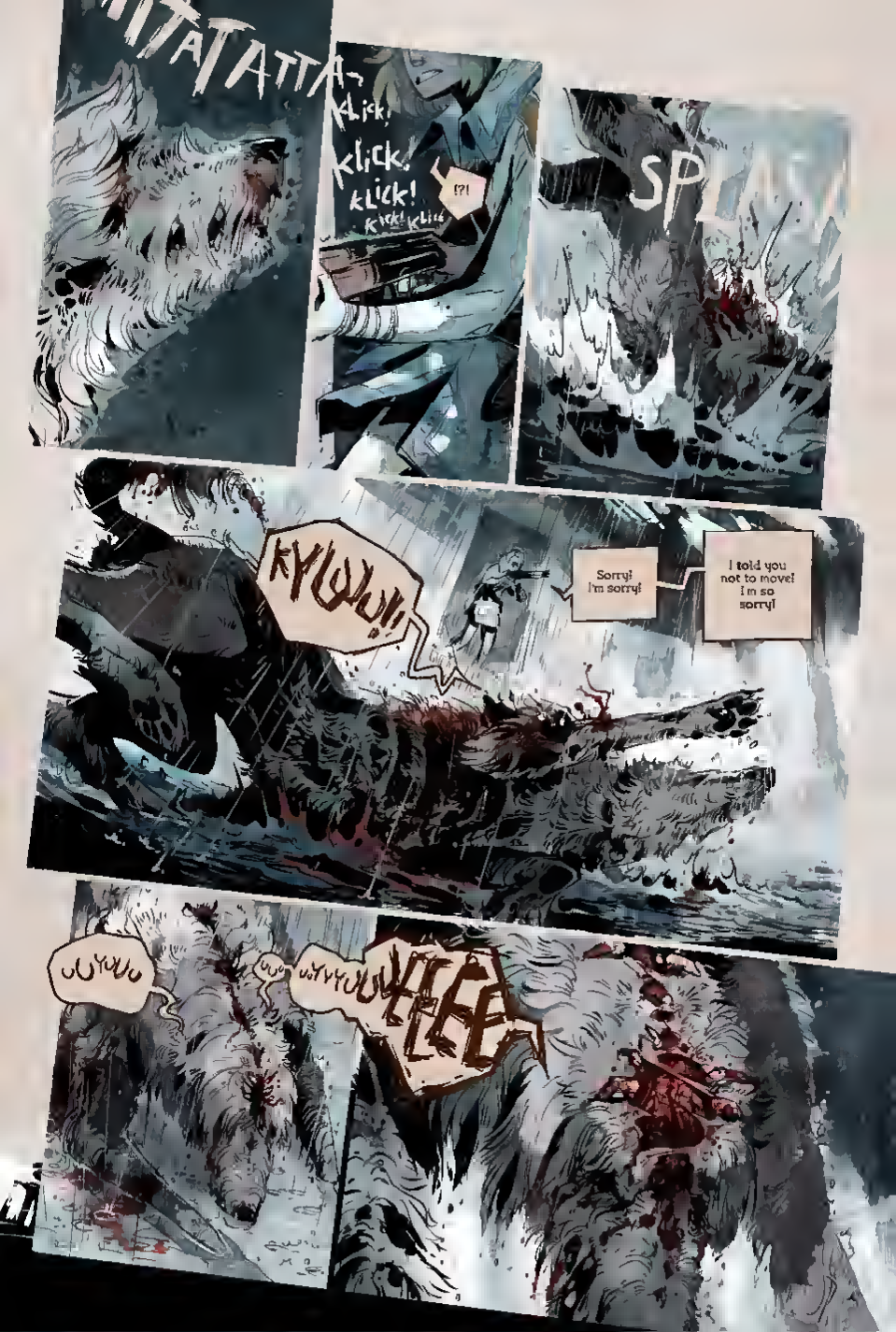

...
...Have you made any friends yet?
...
...
Maybe.
Kind of.
One.


?!
Sigrun!
I think I heard something again!
Alright, go check it out. Then we can leave
Never mind
In that case I definitely didn't hear anything
Don't be a wimp wimp!
!
Just make sure it's not something that'll follow us.
Uhh.
And if it's a deer again bag it for dinner

MMRRRR
SSAHH!
AHH!
Good
Some
Fightin
wildcats.
I'll just-

SH!
...
Okay then...

Don't move for a tiny moment I'll take care of this
nyuuu
That's it good boy
It'll be over very soo~
nyuuu


TATATATA
klick!
klick!
klick!
!?!
SPL
KYUUU!!
Sorry! I'm sorry!
I told you not to move! I'm so sorry!
UUUUU
UUUUUU
FREE

SHIIGRUUUN!!

Help me!
S... where you are!
Emil, come back here! That's just a cat!
Hisss!
HYAAAAGH!!
KRATATATTA!!

SNAP!

¡OOOH!
¡OOOH!
¡OOOH...

Ah
Wait!
KLUNK

Come back! You can't just go on living like-!
like that
SSSSHH
Come on get down here. I know a healer that can take a look at that wound for you
And give you food
This will be really easy for both of us if you just climb down now
Or you can be difficult about it
Psssh-hissss!
Fine then you wanted it this way

Hsshh
Yeah, whatever
?!?
eto

PSSSH
HSSSH!!!
SSH!
Here kitty kitty.
RAAA!!

SHWRTCH
Stop! Can't you see that I'm trying to help you here?!
BAD CAT NO!!
FLOP!
Great, you're done with that? Maybe now we can finally leave

Look Emil
Sometimes animals die and there's nothing we can-
-mm.

miu
This one is still alive!
What do we do?!
We gather our junk and go back. I'm ready to get out of this rain

Ohhh you're awake... hi
Hi
So, ummm, did you at least sleep well, or...?
Mm... I suppose !
...did?

I did sleep well! I had an awesome dream!
Your brother from the picture-
he was in it! And your cousin Lilli too! I told your brother that you're fine, and then we were all hanging out together and having a super great time! Then I accidentally left
That's a nice dream uh uh
A little weird maybe (And his name is Lilli, by the way.)
Wooow... you know what?
I think I might be a-t
Help! Mikkel!!!
Emer gency!!!
You two into isolation now until the situation is cleared! Tuuri you know the drill!
Who here needs medical attention?!
Cats do!

She is cold and wet and sick! You have to fix her!
...
1 sec
I will dedicate my time and effort to revitalizing this wild and feral animal you found
FSJSSSHH!

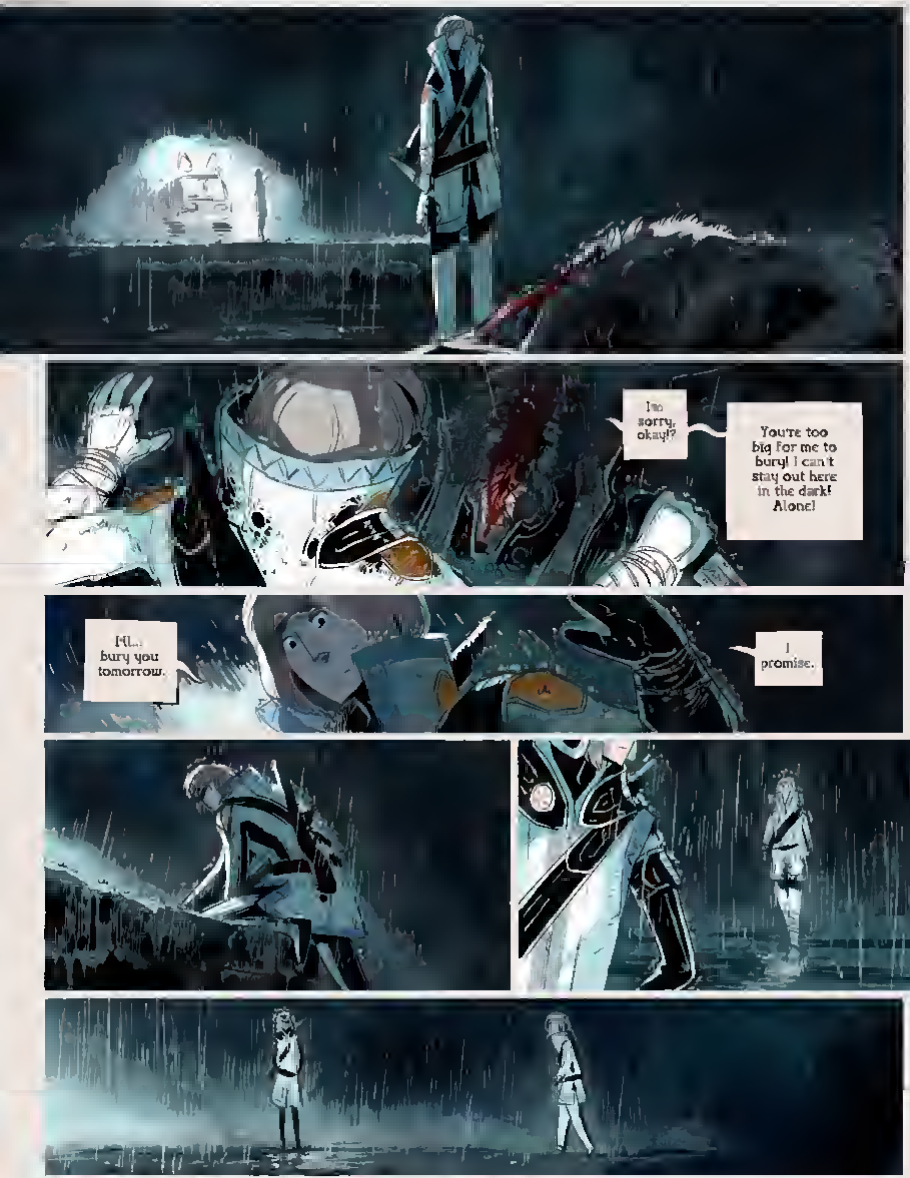
That's going to make her feel better?
Yes.
HSSSHH!
There there
Really?
That's it? So I just wasted my time carrying it here
You gave it a better way to go
...What?!

You didn't even try!
Trying isn't always a beneficial course of action
I tried so hard! A lot! Earlier!
Now Mikkel is trying to console him
Hm. Perhaps giving the cats a proper burial will give you a sense of closure
How does that sound?
Emil?
Grmr mmr
Sigrun, you try it.
I can't tell if he understands what I'm saying or not.
Sure.
Emil! If we bury the cats will you stop moping?
I don't care, do what you prefer.
There we go, you feeling any better yet?
...Said I don't care.

If you have some death rites you'd like to perform maybe get them over with so we can go back inside_
Hey

?
Don t run away now
...

SH kk


I'm sorry, okay!?
You're too big for me to bury! I can't stay out here in the dark! Alone!
I'll... bury you tomorrow.
I promise.

...
...
phh.

Dog beasts

are as numerous as they are enigmatic, the one kind of beast that documentedly appears to retain some degree of presence of their own self and their ancient kinship with humans

Noted kinds of dog beasts

Garm

The only beast known to principally hunt and devour humans. Tend to be large and bulky with an armor like hide

Encountered in

Nor Den Swe

Kyrkogrim

These eerie beings are believed to stand guard by the gravesites of their dead human companion They are not known to attack unless one approaches this area.

Encountered in

Den Swe

Manalan Rakki

A miserable creature that seeks out human contact and consequently acts as a vector of the illness. (Also known as *Hiiden hurtta*)

Encountered in.

Fin

Latte's back!
Fiinally
SHUUP

This is perfect! Awesome and great!
The food?
No the weather!
The food looks disgusting
Just saying
The food is fine
Pity about all the snow though right? We'll just get stuck somewhere-
The snow is great! It'll dull our sounds
This is our chance to go straight for the heart of the city!

Mikkel! Is this poison ready for eating yet!?
Yes!
MIKKEL!!! Did you melt candles into this sludge!?!
Surely I would never!
What did he say?
That he didn't.
So, farm guy, I've decided that we will-
SHUNK
Whoah, really!
Calm down!
I'm sorry I called your food death in a bowl, now stop raging!
I'm only disposing of this garbage.
Oohh I see! You didn't know what old world gramophones look like, so you became confused and thought they were trash.
Don't feel bad, I didn't know what they were before Emil told me
And I'll let you know that I've seen Emil's educational records, and we'd all benefit from disregarding any wisdom he chooses to share.

First of all, I know you just called my right hand warrior stupid.
Second of all-!
...you're stupid
Hey!
I don t know why you're sulking over here but I brought you your breakfast
Get it while it s warm!
Or you could-
Uaa aaa...
Aaaa

Why?!
Oh that?
Don t mind him, it's just mage stuff!
Do you know what your cousin is doing?
Mh?

Did I tell you that I *think* there's a 99 percent chance that I'm a mage too?
No, what really?! What can you do?
Well nothing really. Yet!
But I'm sure I'll figure out a skill soon!
Mm
No offense but you're probably not a mage then
That's fine you don't have to believe me.
I'll ask your cousin to teach me something cool next time we talk, then I'll be useful and great!
Okay

Oy, little puffy-hair!
That's me?
Call the elderly folks and let them know that we're heading way far out today! Got to keep them in the loop too
Right away!
Incoming radio call!!
For Västerström and company!
Aaanybody waiting for a radio call?
No?
What if their vehicle breaks down in the snow? What if they all die?!
Stop worrying, honey!
They won't be doing anything too risky today, not before adjusting to the change in weather. You'll see!
Message delivered successfully!
Good
Lalli!

Come ride in the front with me this time
You can do it!
Mrh
Don't be scared of new things!
Mrh
I'm tired
You can still sleep!
But you have to be close by in case I need to consult you on the path! Your scout notes aren't always the clearest!
Mrr!
That's the spirit! Hop on in!
I'm sorry but am I the only one who thinks that is a deadly health hazard??
Yes you are

I also wanted to apologize to you Lalli
I've barely spent any time socializing you since we left home, you must have been feeling so lonely! But let's try a conversation now, shall we?
Don't need it...
I'll start!
THUMP!
urp
Oh
you fell asleep already?

Mikkel, can I ask something?
About that blood?
You see, my parents kind of led me to believe that being this close to any infected material would make my skin fall off and then I'd die
Mhm?
So... that's not about to happen?

To the best of my knowledge no. it's not
Are you two talking about me?
Once something is dead its bodily fluids won t retain its infectious qualities for long. Especially not in cold, or with exposure to daylight
On the other hand I could be misremembering happens now and then
Let me know if your face starts feeling like it s melting off
I will
Umm.
Sooo, how confident were we supposed to be in little twig s scouting skills again?

D-don't worry! I'm sure Lalli found a way to get across here!
Really? Because that bridge looks kinda collapsed to me
I'll ask him...
Lalli! Wake up!
Hrrfh!
Whaa-aat?!?
Please tell me we didn't just drive into a dead end! I told Sigrun we could count on you and now she looks so mad!
Just drive over that snake car!

That used to be a truck
Aha
A-are you sure it'll hold, Laith?
I am
I'm taking a real risk trusting you on this one!
So we're going to drive over that truck husk there!
Okay
RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR
SHUNK!!!!!
RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR

I'm sorry I doubted you, of course you're always correct.
Pfh!
Let me sleep!
WOMP!

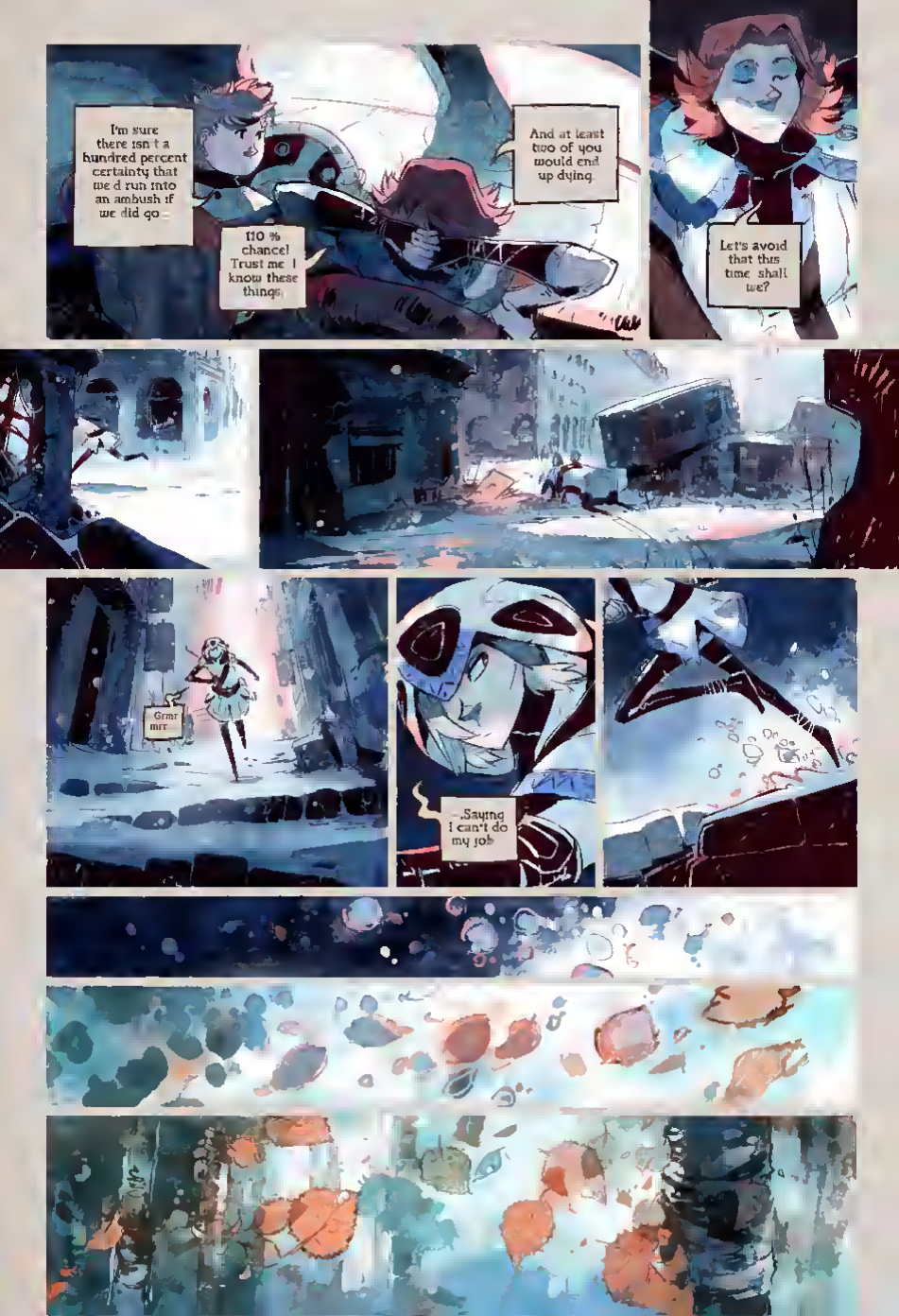
Enough with the snow already
WRRRRRRR
Stop, STOP stop!
You'll get us stuck here

It's just a snowdrift! If I give you a shovel, how fast can you dig us through here, Mikkel?
In a week
Half a week
What if I help you out?
Okay, let's not do that then
Excuse me, I'll need this for a moment...
You can have it back soon!
If we make a huge bonfire here we can melt the snow away in no time!
I like the sound of that.
TAP-TAP-TAP
Hmmh, Tuuri
I suspect your cousin did not think of the possibility of a snowstorm and forgot to scout us a backup route. Any thoughts?
H-he has a plan. Always.

See, he's figuring something out right now! There's no way he forgot to think about the weather! I-
Hit,
...ask him!
Lalli?
Come over here just for a tiny moment!
Teeny-tiny.
I've basically told Signun that we can put all our faith in you, and that you would never make a beginner mistake like not preparing for a situation like this
Please tell me that!
I did not think it'd snow this much
HOW
-did this happen?! You're supposed to be the one that doesn't make mistakes!
You're supposed to be good!

I know you've been trained better than that! What would Onni say if he saw this?!
[illegible] would grandma say?!
How can
PAF!
No!
I'm sorry! Please don't do that!
Mrrrr
Okay
I don't know what that was but it wasn't helpful
I'm so sorry! You were right there's no plan We can't go through here I'm sorry! This was a mistake
Again I'm so sorry!
I believe our only option is to go back
I haaaate backtracking! I'm always ambushed by something!
Mrrr
Come Lalli, we're turning around You can stop that now I'm sorry I yelled at you
sigh We just have to accept today as a Failure
No!

I don t Fart.
There are other ways! And other safe spots! And I'll find them right now!
Trans-lation?
Ahh, umm
He says he could find another path. But I think he might be too tired to-
Yes! Awesome! That's exactly what I like to hear!
You have the correct attitude, little pipsqueak!
SLAP!
Sigh She says you can go if you really want to...
We've got plenty of day left, lets put it to good use!
Don t you run over the scout now!
That's not really a risk, we're not fast enough to do that.
I still think he might be too tired, maybe we should go back and start fresh tomorrow
Nahh


I'm sure there isn't a hundred percent certainty that we'd run into an ambush if we did go—
110 % chance! Trust me I know these things.
And at least two of you would end up dying.
Let's avoid that this time shall we?
Grmr mrr
...Saying I can't do my job

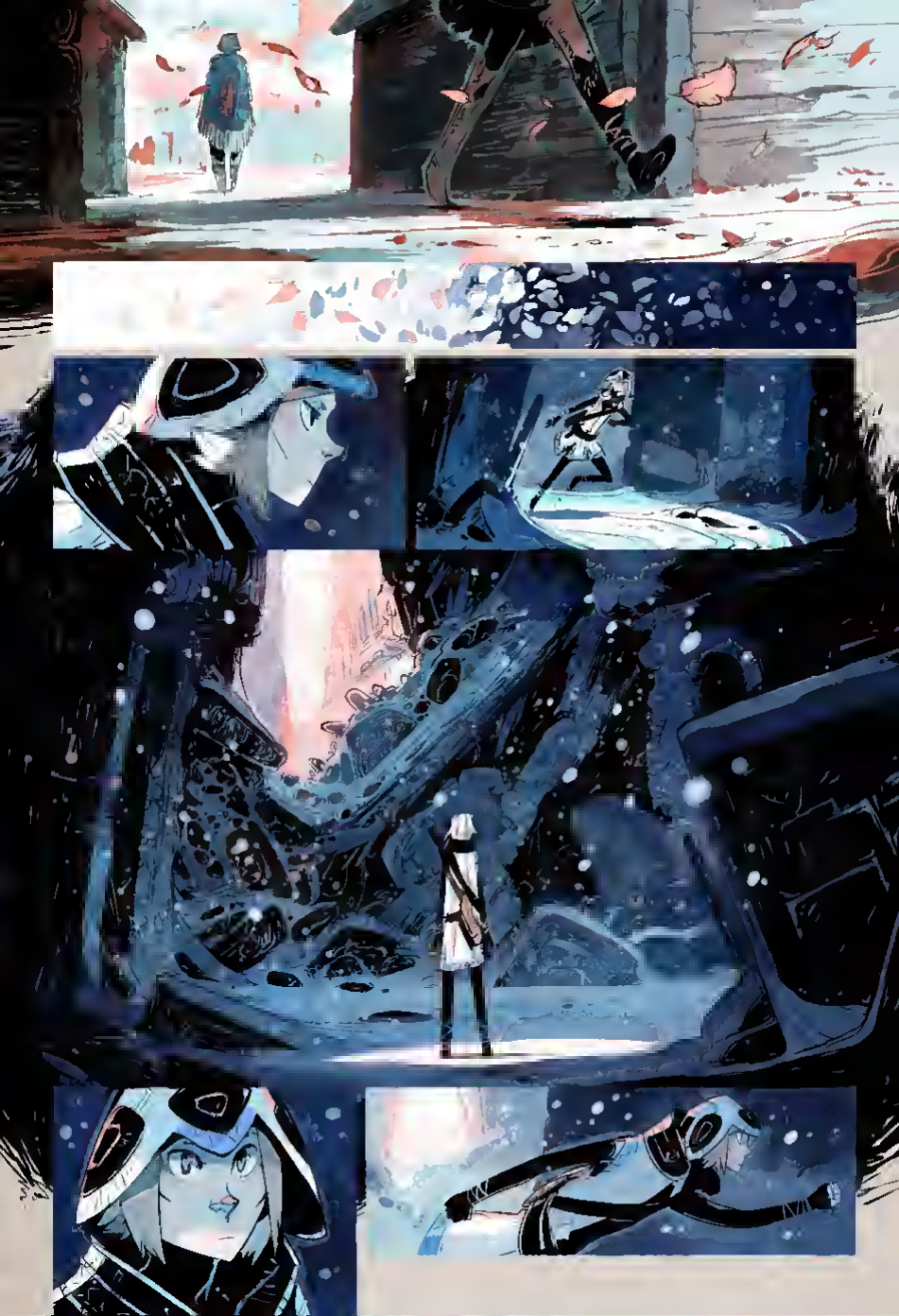
You were still fortunate
Only four casualties after an attack like that? I'd count it as a best case sce-
SHUT UP
This is an insult! My skalds do not make mistakes!
It's one of the scouts! They don't fill in their reports properly and they use disastrously vague descriptions when they do!
Nobody is being blamed here
We still have to check if a change in the record keeping system could have prevented this

I-I think I make mistakes sometimes! It could have been my error! I might have !
Shush, shush now
Sir!
I believe I've found it
The section for area details merely says "yes"
It's the most recent scout report for the site of the attack. It's improperly filled out.
And quite vague
Mmm, I see.
Two weeks old, report given the 3rd of September at 9:35 by a night scout.

That s cleared up then
An honest human error
You may all return to your respective tasks Have a pleasant evening
And all scouts under the age of 15 will be required to attend a lecture on how to use your words to express what you ve seen
Mrrrrrr!
Has my cousin come by here?
Haven t seen him today sweetie
He ll show up once he s hungry enough
Yeah.

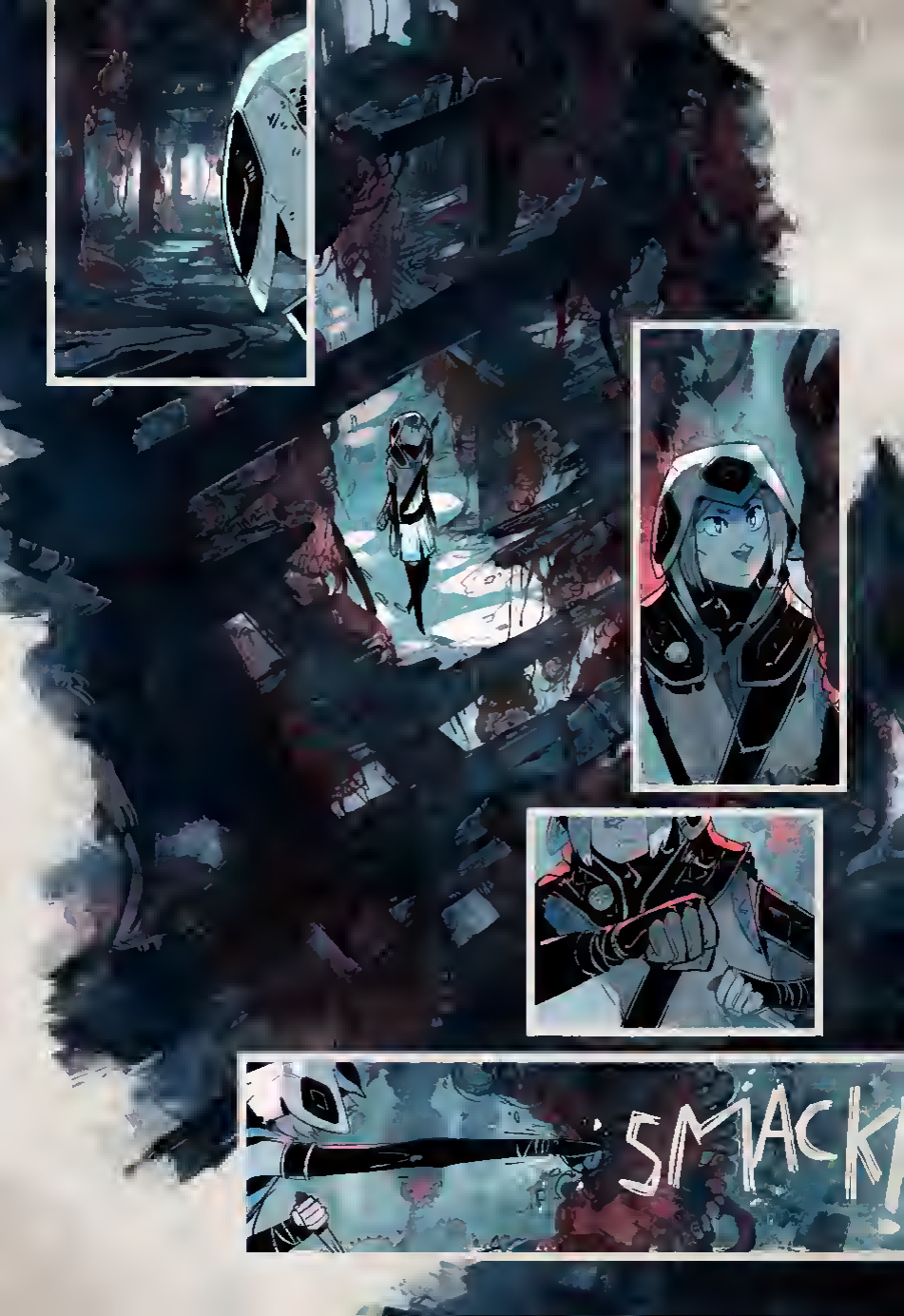
I bet he went somewhere to sulk
Lath

Give me an acceptable explanation
Leave me alone!
I've made one mistake! Less than others!
Never try that excuse again!
We're not allowed to make mistakes. not under any circumstances!
Grandma made one mistake, and see where that got us
CHOM!
Come eat something proper
... Going to bed...



Hum

If he wasn't sure he could lead us somewhere he would let us know, right?
I hope so.
I mean... I don't really know him that well. I'm not sure what he does under pressure. We never really worked or spent a lot of time together back home
And before we moved to Keuruu he was always out training with grandma, so- um
I suppose we have to trust him to make the right call
Oh. I see.
It was nice meeting all of you, and I hope we can meet up in Valhalla to chat some time
Yah!


SMACK!

Good.
Maybe they're all dead
PAFF
TSOMP
TSUP
POFF
...I can't check each one by myself...
Ah!
TSUP

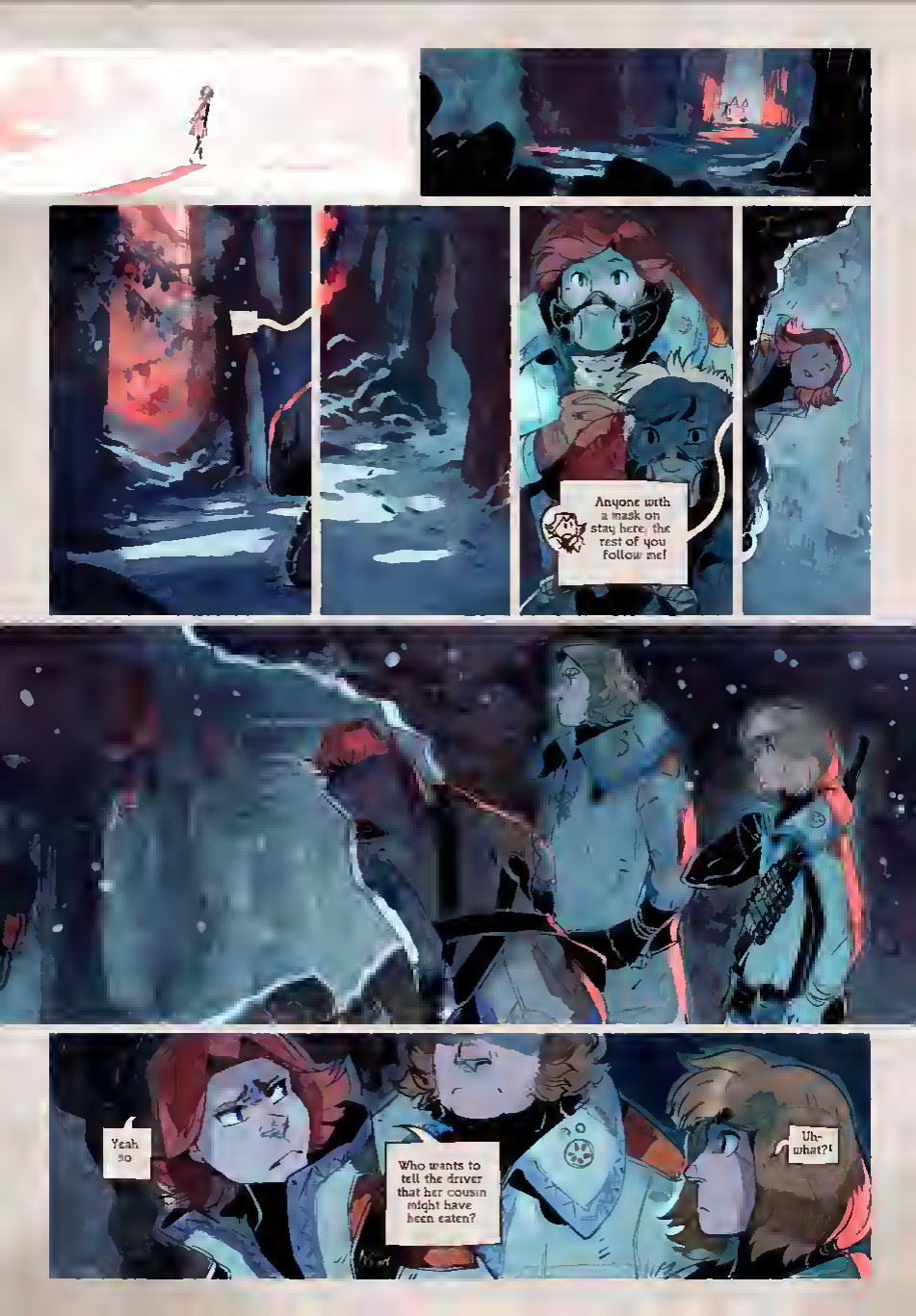
Tulehan jo tuekseni,
Noitumani nostajaksi,
Iskujeni iskijäksi,
Loitsujeni laulajaksi.
Väki, voima,
aimoseni
Vankka, vakaa
haltijani
Vankkumaton
Luontoni

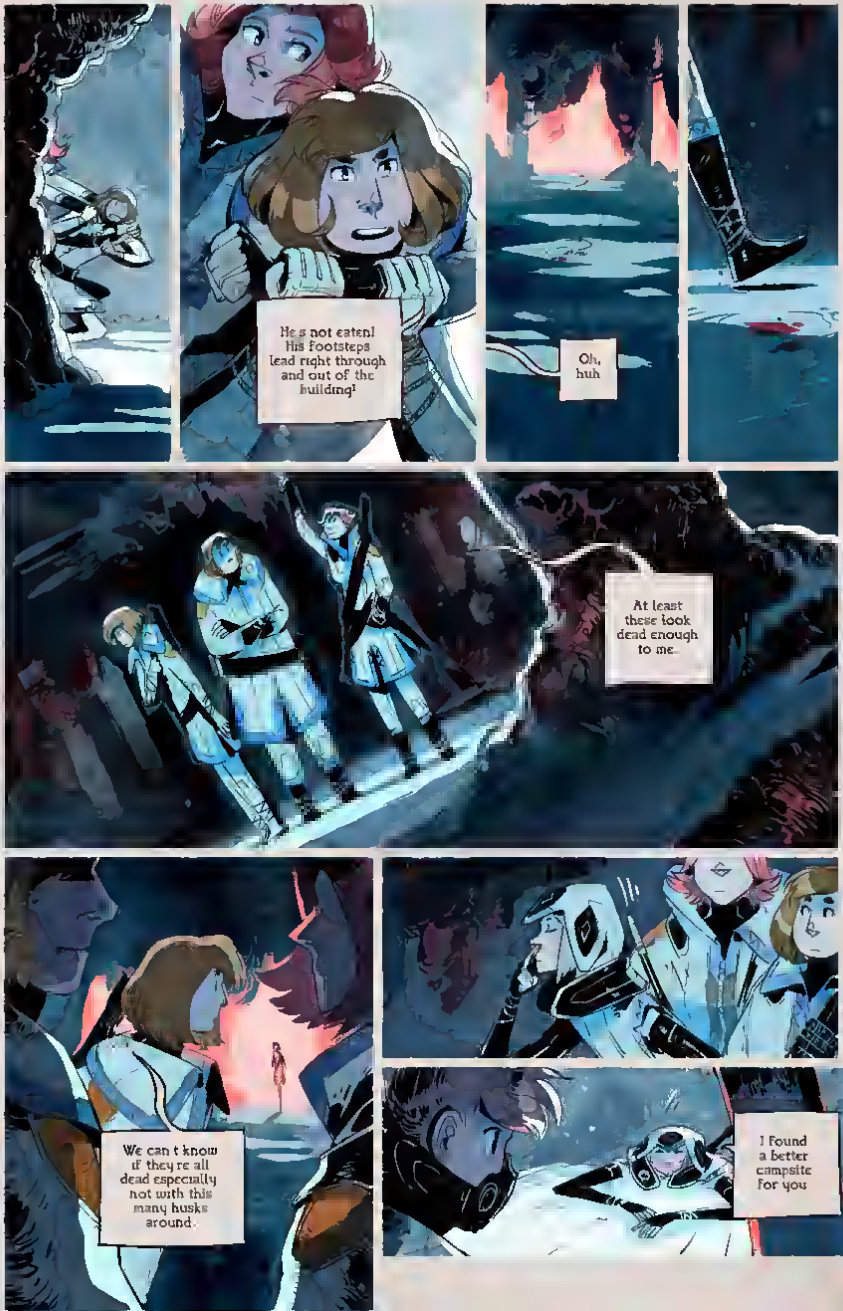
PAF!
PAF!
PAF!
PAF!
PAF!

PAF!
PAF!
PAF!
PAF!
PAF!
PAF!
PAF!

HHHHH
PUFF!
OHUUU

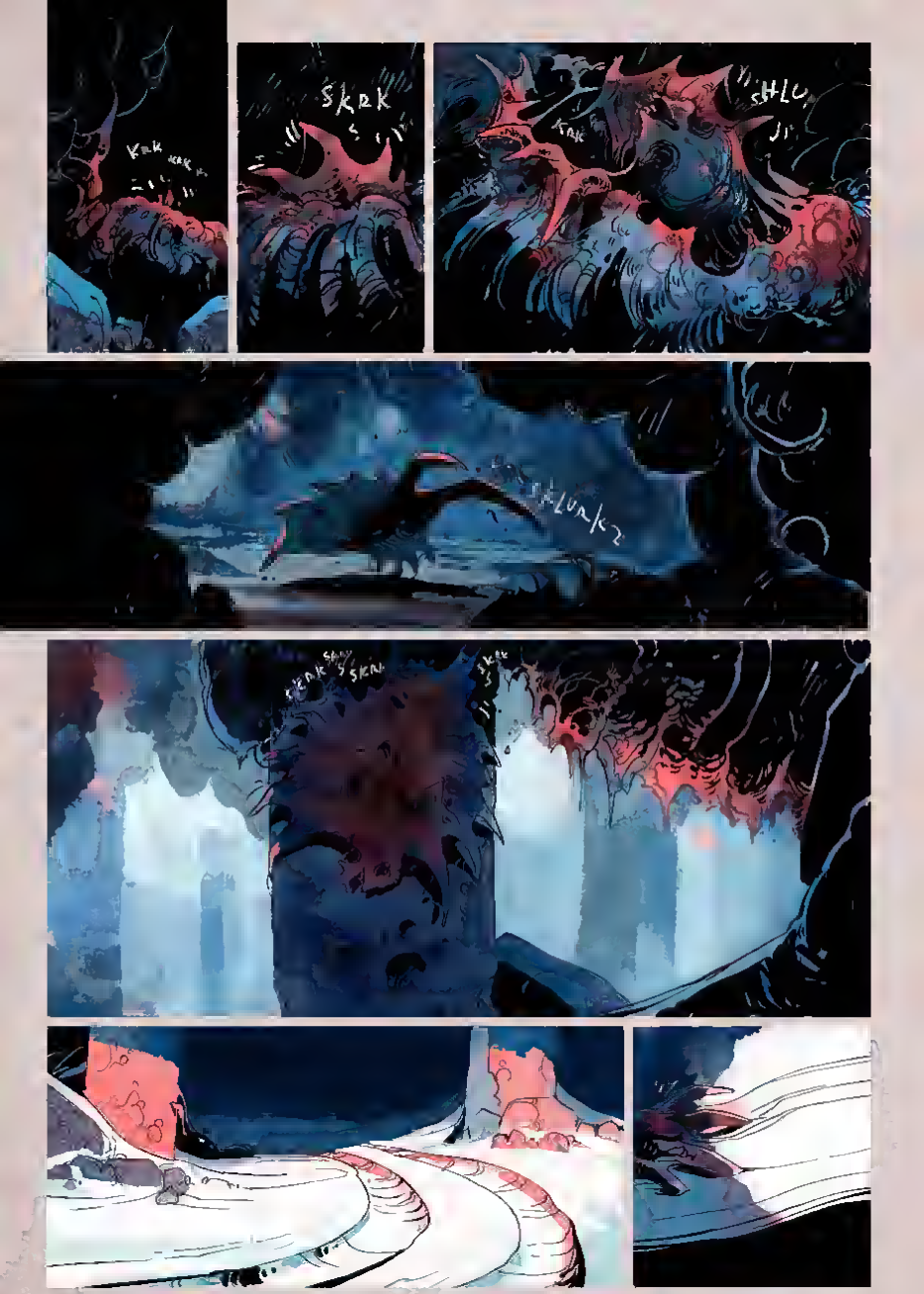
SHUF


Anyone with a mask on stay here, the rest of you follow me!
Yeah so
Who wants to tell the driver that her cousin might have been eaten?
Uh- what?!

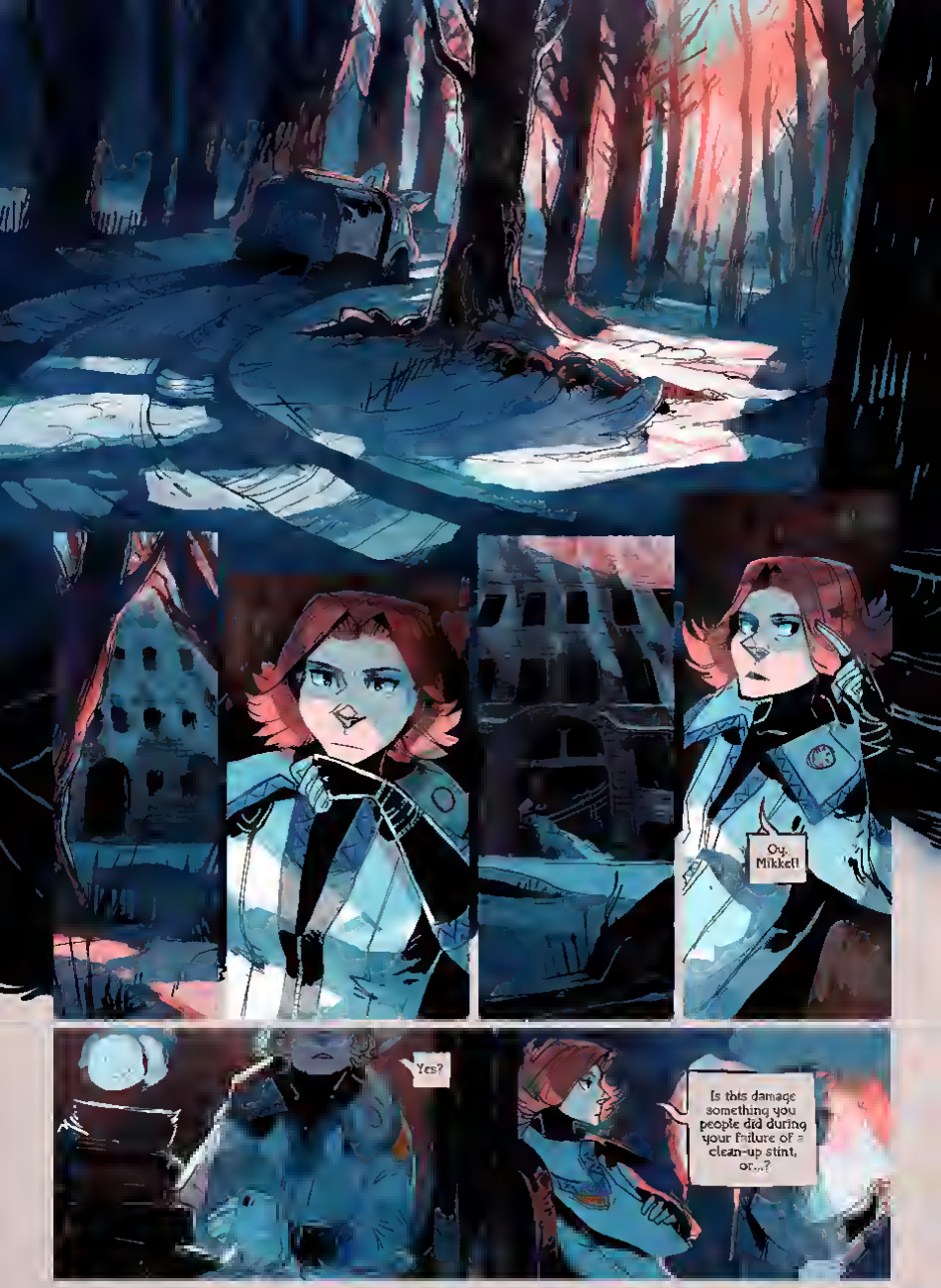

He's not eaten! His footsteps lead right through and out of the building!
Oh, huh
At least these look dead enough to me.
We can't know if they're all dead especially not with this many husks around.
I found a better campsite for you

Map
If you can, try not to run down any of the support pillars. Just drive in a straight line!
4
I-I'm definitely trying.

Hsss..
I know, its really scary!
Hss..
But the humans will protect you!
Em..
KLOP
KLOP
THRUMM
KLOMP


SKRK
SHLU
SHLUNK?

SHWUM
I was too critical of Lalli, of course he'll find us a path. I yelled at him and made him feel bad, I shouldn't have
I dunno, sometimes yelling is good.
Gets people off their butts.


Oy, Mikkel!
Yes?
Is this damage something you people did during your failure of a clean-up stint, or...?

No
This is ancient
VRRR
KRR
KRR
KRR

PONK!
I'm so sorry to bother!
Sigrun needs to know if you saw anything of concern by the buildings.
...s nothin...
Okay
...just s m weird spirits is all...

And I'm sorry I yelled, I'll try not to do it again. Too much.
zZz
I'll apologize better when you're awake
Alright then.
This place looks good enough I suppose.

KALLOHONKA

concept from the belief system of the Finns

By placing the skull of a beast on top of a designated skull tree, a *kallohonka* the Finnish mage ensures that the spirit of the animal can return to the skies From there it will be reborn into the herds of Tapio and Mielikki*, cured of its affliction

*The ruling deities of the forest

LUONTO

Concept from the belief system of the Finns

This entity is the third part of the human soul, but also an outer being that follows and protects its human throughout life

Children are not born with their Luonto, rather it comes to them by the time of their first teeth emerging.

Before this children are particularly vulnerable to illness and the harmful forces of the *Kade.**

**Kade: A cursed magic*

A persons physical and mental strength is greatly determined by the inherent strength of their Luonto

It is, however possible to strengthen a weak Luonto through life experience, work and hardship

Mages have the ability to draw from the force of their Luonto to temporarily increase the power of their spells. Some believe that the spirit might even be the primary source for most of the Finnish mages' power

The Luonto may temporarily leave their human due to an traumatic event, injury, or after traveling too great of a distance too fast

The absence of a Luonto will result in great fatigue and weakness

The only way to regain the spirit is to wait patiently for it to return

In rare cases the Luonto is not able to return to their human. A person who stays without their Luonto too long will fall ill and eventually wither away

9

How rich do you think the people who lived here were?
So rich!
PAF
I saw something move over there!
He something something something?
He saw something move.

Enghh, really?
Fine.
You protect the helpless ones while we check it out.
...Okay, I see nothing that points to recent activity in here, except little guy's footprints.
You spot anythin'?
I do not.

...
I-I'm sorry.
It's just... ghosts?
"Ghosts."
Ghosts?
Ask him if they look mean.
"Sigh." Do the "ghosts" appear hostile?
Uh...no? They just kinda sit there and flicker a little.

He said no
Kay
You don't think they look dangerous, do you?
Mm?
Well huh
Did they all die from the illness?
No
Remains from victims of the illness have plenty of prominent identifiers most notably calcified tissue remains and deformities of the joints. These individuals look too clean.
They were, however, ill at some point.
See these small structural anomalies of the bone? A relatively early stage of the illness
But no, they did not die from it
Ha
So hey, you, what do you think these guys died from?
"Other causes."
And that's scientist-speak for...?
It means I don't know.
And I'm not a scientist.
Scientist, doctor, same thing as far as I'm concerned.
Also not a doctor.

Ssooo... veterinarian then?
I have assisted in several cow births back home
Okay look, here's what I'm really asking
If something needs to be amputated can I count on you or does someone else have to do the chopping?
I don't need credentials to be a decent healer and medic. I'll amputate as needed
Good, I'll trust you.
Thank you!
Now this here is interesting.
And this.
"If any of you wake up..."
"...don't be alarmed, we didn't leave you for dead! But the food has run scarce and we've received word that the troops at Kastellet have decided to abandon their cause and move on. We need to venture further out to find supplies, but we're not giving up on you, not now.
"We'll return very soon!"
And then they never came back. Good story.

And good for us, the place is empty. We're done here.
We're leaving?
Those ghosts didn't really look like any of the spirits we've got at home. They seemed kinda unhappy, don't you think?
Mow?
Hisss!
Sssh!
She's doing this again...

SHH!
Let's just put this on, shall we...
Something's followed us here.

Can't be helped, we have to make sure these two are safe inside before we do anything about it

SMASH!
GRYK!

Kitty!
Mruuh!
Hrk!
YRH!
Yeep!
Get it! Don't let it hide again!
Hold on!
Hm. alright.
VRRRP!
Am I alright?
RRK!
I
don't know

Mrith?
Come here!
Mjiu miu mjiu!
Do your job kitten!
Show me where the troll went!
HWAA!!!
Does *nobody* here know how to aim?!
HAM!
TH
SCRCH!

You broke his leg?!
My LEG!
I...no. That is highly unlikely.
Mjow?!
At least it's injured. Corner it and stomp it to death, maybe then you won't miss!
I... yes. Will do.

KAPK
KW
KW
KW
Good, blood trail right there!
Under the bed!
...
Did it just die?
KRONK
Well, that's handled.
I'm getting hungry, let's go eat.

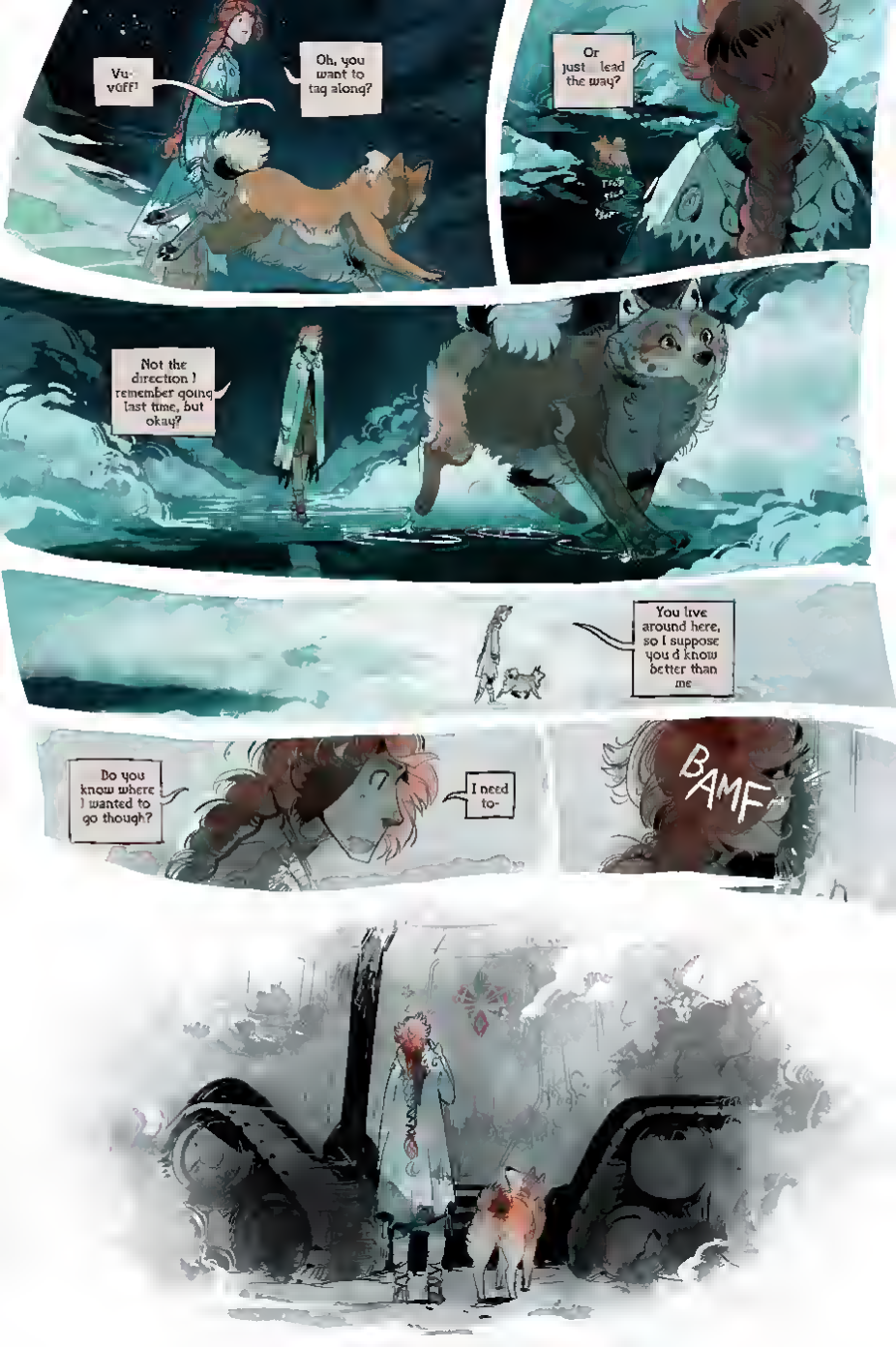
And I think my arm needs a stitch.
You may have more than one
Egill, are you coming!?
Ah-
-yeah.
Where is Reynir?
I'm sorry, we didn't know what to do so I quarantined him into the office.

I hope you don't mind a couple of scars from this
Stitchwork isn't one of my strongest suits.
It's fine. I don't care
Freckles thinks he's about to die.
Handle that for me, will you?
Reynir!
...Yes?
You're not about to die.

But-!
The scratch you have on your arm did not break the skin.. the illness can not enter your body through the tissue
In case your arm looked like this your worries would be warranted
Ow.
But I was so close to it...
Does not matter
Your mouth might be a gaping wound as far as infectious particles are concerned
but those are not a concern with a mask on
In conclusion you are safe unless you went ahead and licked your arm
Did you lick your arm?
No
Well done
And this is finished
So you were not kidding, you suck at doing stitches
I mean.. I've had worse but still
They serve their purpose regardless
We only have to make sure the wounds stay dry and clean from now on

I'll start heating supper and then take a look at that leg of yours
Yeah, it's okay, I don't need that.
My leg is fine.
I kinda wish I could ask your cousin something.
I can ask him when he wakes up. What do you want to know?
Oh, there's these odd ghost things out there, just curious what they are.
Mmh, Lalli mentioned seeing something like that earlier. I doubt he'd know, he calls things "weird" when he has no clue.
That's okay, you don't need to.
Maybe your brother would know!
Uh, um, maybe?
I can't ask him though, so... you know.
Well, that's a pity.
...Wait, so you saw them too?

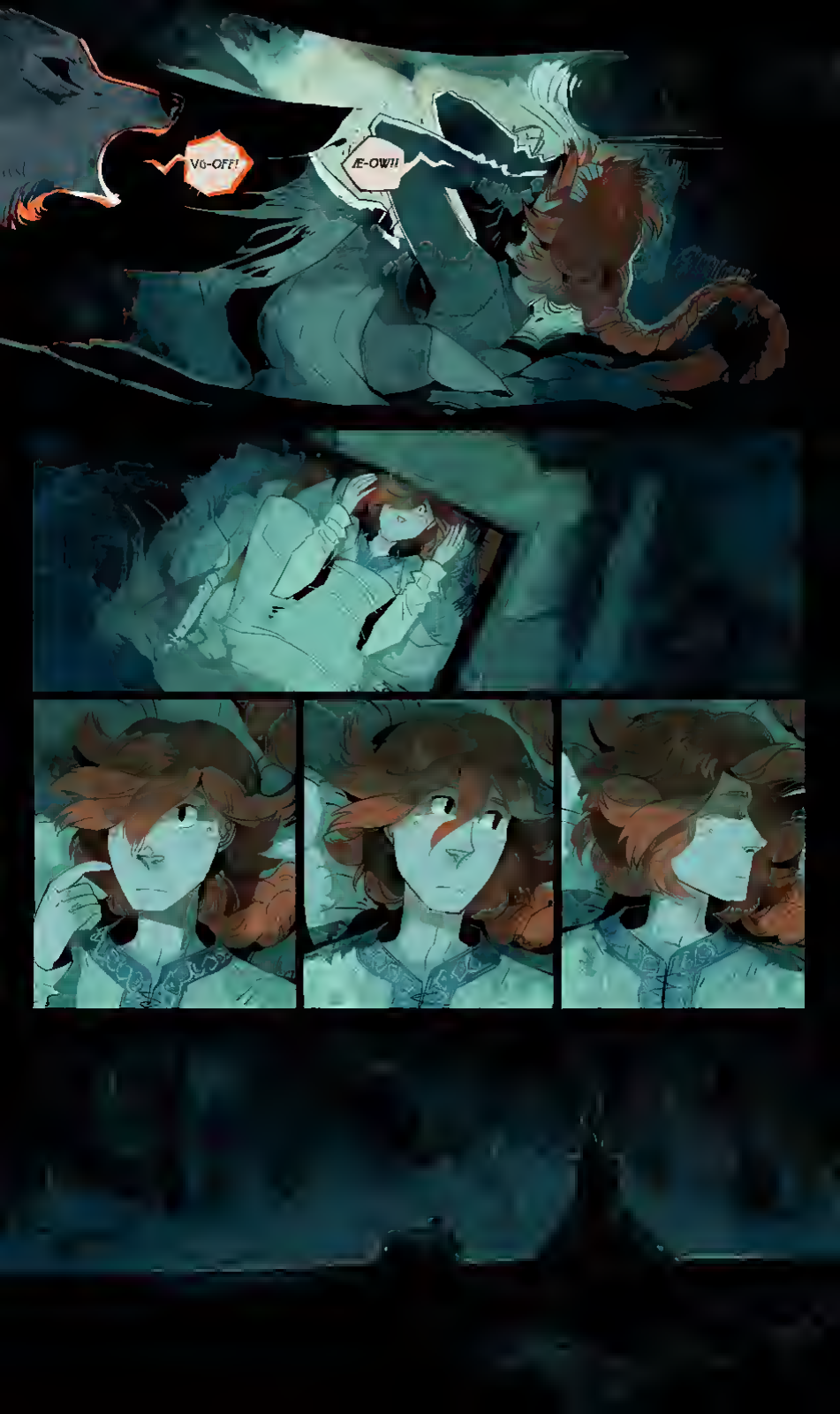
Yes!
Awe-some!
I'm awesome
Voff!


Vu-vüff!
Oh, you want to tag along?
Or just... lead the way?
Not the direction I remember going last time, but okay?
You live around here, so I suppose you'd know better than me
Do you know where I wanted to go though?
I need to-
BAMF

Don't look at me you brought us here
Hello? Anyone?
Arf?

Uh.
hi?

Remember this


VG-OFF!
Æ-OW!!

DISTANCES of RISK

Common trolls and beasts can only spread the illness through direct contact with a non-immune person. Bite wounds are the leading cause of infection.

0 m

Non-immune humans are susceptible to the Illness through various means of contact from different types of vectors

1 m

Rare cases of trolls capable of spreading the Illness through mere breathing have been recorded. At this stage the infectious agent does not stay viable for long in the air and can't travel far. These trolls are easily detected through their audible wheezing sound.

3 m

When incubating in **non-immune humans** the infectious agent temporarily enters a less destructive, but more airborne form. When a person exhibits mere mild symptoms they are the most effective of vectors.

10 m

Some trolls have been known to spit.

10

There, that should keep it in place
You merely need to make sure that the stitches are not disturbed
So I don t have to be careful as long as the arm stays still?
You don t have to be but I would highly recommend it
Okay thanks! I ll grab my buddy and we'll get out of your hair!
Yes about Emil
I have a suggestion Perhaps- due to his injury it would be preferable that he stayed here today and instead I-
EEMIIIL!!!
SH

I don't get it.
Is he ill?
Oh...you could say that.
He'll just need to rest up a bit.
... Okay.
Feel better, I guess.
I'm ready to go!
Great. We'll be back in time for food. Bye, keep safe!
Sigrun! I have to insist!
You're both injured, while I am not. So I propose that Emil is allowed to rest up here today and I-
Let me stop you right there.
No
My leg does kind of hurt a lot
No it doesn't. Stop being a crybaby about it

Nothing personal!
I just have zero faith in your battling skills!
Mikkel was right, this does look like that. Doesn't it?
I... guess?

The label is blank and the flyer in the book doesn't say much. Just that these'll be distributed to treatment centers "as soon as possible."
I don't think this doctor ever got them. He didn't write anything about it. But
maybe...
Eee!
Maybe someone did come up with a vaccine and they were trying to give these out to people!
We've got to find out where they came from!
I did consider it to be a possibility.
Didn't seem to work too well. Those skeletons in there were really really dead.
The package is too degraded to tell the origin, but this label does say these were distributed from the Kastellet fort. It's very close by.
Tell Sigrun! She—!
—left and will not be back for a while.
Well! Then we need to go check it out ourselves, we just have to be careful! This is too important to postpone another day!
No, it is not! I'm interested too, but it can wait. We have our respective tasks to tend to here.

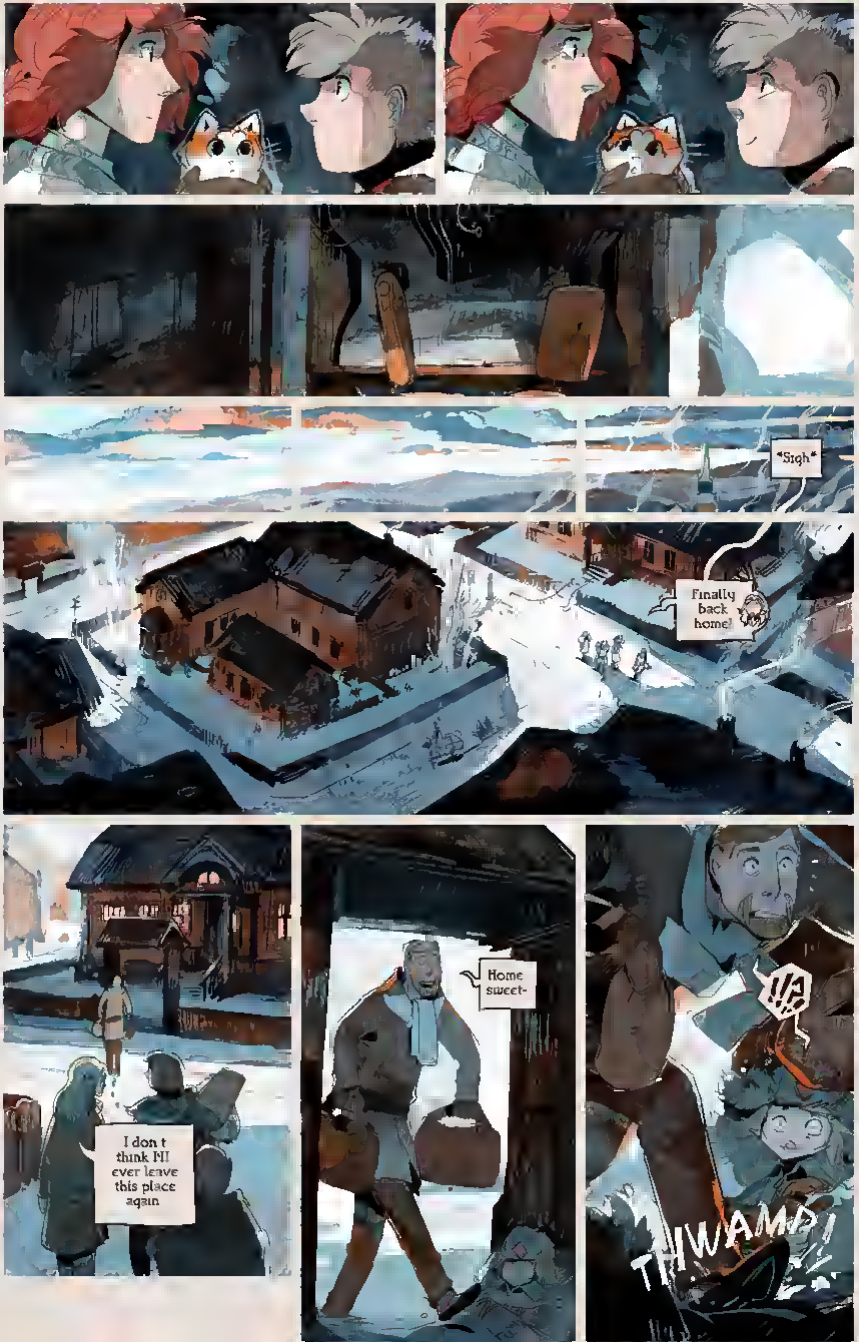
...
...A thankless job.
Thanks for letting me help!
Z
Z
TSUH TSUH
PLAT!

Come over here, kitten
We're going for a walk.
Ah-
You... changed your mind?!
You could say that; yes I had time to think—
—and I see no reason why I should be required to wait for Sigrun when I'm perfectly capable of inspecting a location without aid
Yes! Exactly! Let's go!
No, you are safer here. Keep the door closed and wait for my return.
So what? You get to break the rules but we don't?
I'm doing no such thing. I haven't been ordered by anyone to stay, but I'm ordering you to. Have a good day.
Hold on!

You are breaking the rules if you go!
You can t leave two non-immune people alone in the field without an immune person around for protection!
zZz
There is your guard
Keep each other entertained during my absence.

The radio is broken, huh?
No, it works.
Nobody's answering is all I'm supposed to get us connected with the crew back at the home base.
Ah.
I don't think they're there yet so it's pointless
You knooow if you really wanted to follow Mikkel, being a bit unruly like that, I wouldn't be able to stop you cus I'm tiny. (But I'd try my best so I'd follow you.)
No thanks. I'm good!
I've seen enough neat things for now

"Sigh"
Oh
Yeah, maybe I do want to follow Mikkel!
Ah- actually no Forget it
I bet he'll still get mad at both of us no matter whose idea it was to go outside. We'd need a good reason for it
Okay?
Mjau
Mjurr
He— was supposed to take kitty with him, wasn't he?


"Sigh."
Finally back home!
I don t think MI ever leave this place again
Home sweet-
!/A
THWAMP!

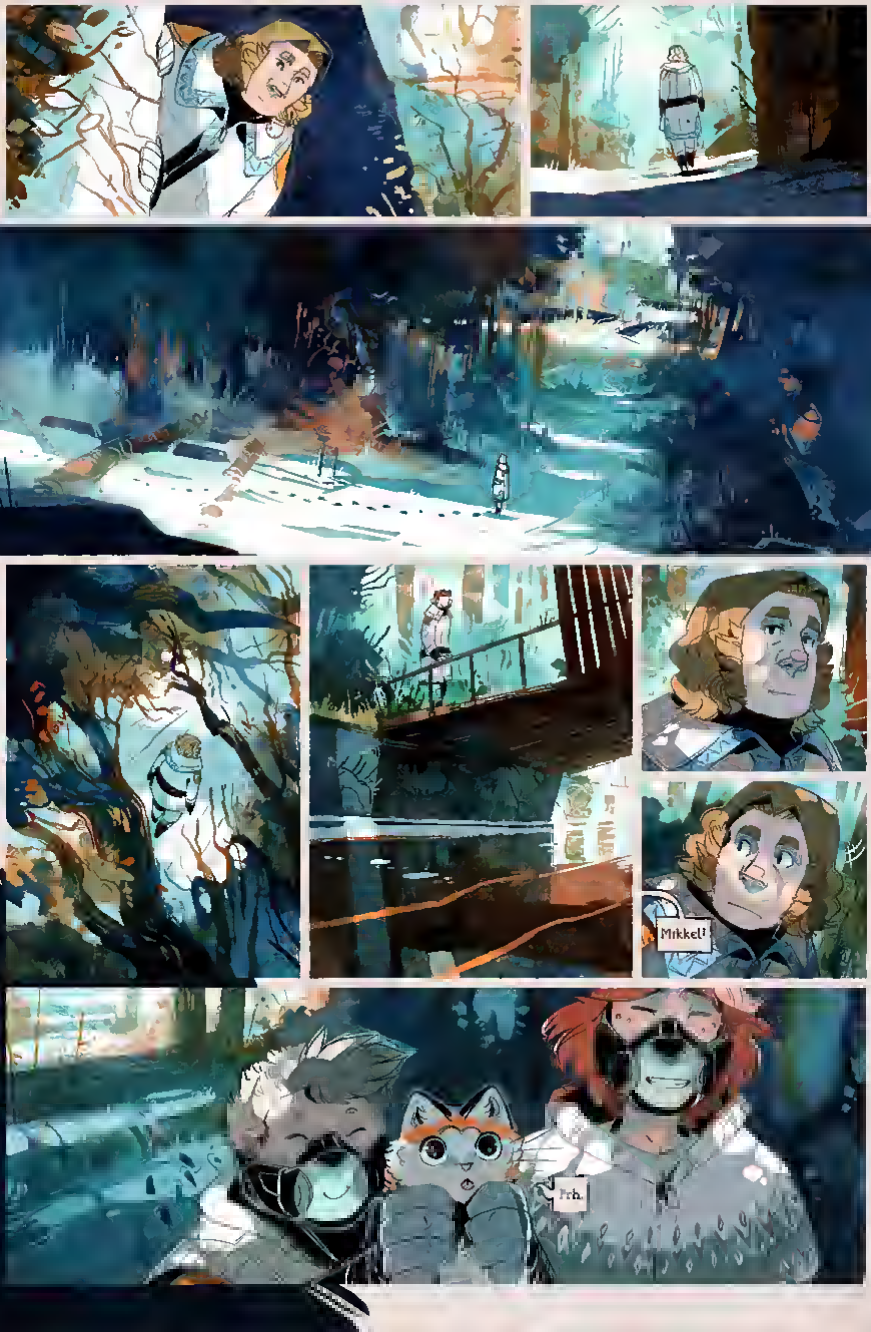
I'm so sorry!
I didn't expect anyone to be sleeping in my yard
Can I help you with anything?
Hello? Do you know where you are?
Are you lost?
I think you're lost
Siv, I'll be away for a while! The mental ward might have lost one of their patients, I'll go see if they recognize him
Oh the poor soul
Taru!
Onni?
So you decided to accept my offer after all, then
Was the journey that bad? You look like you've been crying
What!?

Very puffy eyes...
Well maybe I'm allergic to traveling!
This is Onni Hotakainen, he's the mage I had earmarked as one of our crew members
Oh I see! Tuuri's older brother, am I correct?
Icelandic?
Some Enough
Excellent, welcome!
Kids! Mommy and daddy are home!
YAAAY!!!
Mjau!
I would have preferred to have you out on the expedition but we'll find you something to do here I hope you don't mind some grunt work
It's fine, I don't care.
Trond would you man the radio while we get lunch started up here?
Thank you!
Yes, put the old man to work before giving him food...
He said "radio!"
That's what I wanted!
You can join Trond, I'm sure he won't mind the company.
Um...
...that's all you packed?

Did you forget your things?
Oy, you may go onboard already. I'm starting up the engine soon.
Mr-hm
To the person still dilly-dallying on the pier: get onboard! The departure is imminent!
THE BOAT IS LEAVING NOW!
Eep!
I have no need for worldly possessions
Fine. But next time you travel try to at least bring a change of clothes with you. It's polite

Trond, this is-
Yes, yes, I heard. I'm not deaf
Check how the food is coming along for me!
Sure
What do you want!?
Call my sister!
Sit down!
I already am!
PUF!

...Is it broken?
It works. Nobody is answering
Maybe they're all... eating?
Maybe.
Are you about to cry!?
No!
I'm allergic to this stupid country!


Mikkeli
Prh.

This was Reynir's idea. I tried to stop him!
Y, yup, my idea
... I will never not be a babysitter.
You won't have to babysit us. We'll just follow you around!
He did get angry. Now I feel ba...
It's okay! He didn't yell at us, which means we didn't cross the line.

KRRK
Should we just climb over the embankment?
Not necessary.
According to the note this fort was abandoned. I doubt anyone wasted time barricading a place they intended to leave for good.
KRK!
RRAK!

Ah so many critter tracks! Is it weird that there's this many animals here?
Not at all.
The fort is protected by water on all sides, making it a relatively safe sanctuary.
At least for animals. Small immune colonies are known to thrive in spots like these.
But still don't stray!
What exactly are we looking for again?
We are not looking for anything.

Right
What are you looking for?
An address.
Those vials were certainly not manufactured here, but there must be information about their origin tucked away somewhere.
If only I knew where to begin searching
Medical building?
Hm.
Stay here
Come on, let me just have a little peek!
Oh
N-never mind, I'll stay

Reynir! Quit playing with the birds and come here!
Mikkel told you not to stray
Sorry

Reynir!
Right!
A-I
Yeah.
Never seen real skeletons before
Mikkel?
Can we leave? There s those shadow things in here and I don t think we like them a lot
There is nothing in here, don't fret. We'll return to base soon.
Now?
No soon- Don t rush me we have nothing to show for this detour yet
Nyu- uuu
Miu?
Hey relax you don t have to be afraid Look at kitty, she s calm

Nnn...
You can stop that now. It's time to head back. With any luck we'll return before Stgrun does
T-thank you!
...
So.
Spirits again, huh?
You don't believe me. That's okay. It's okay.
Oh, ah... It's not that I don't believe you. But you know... they're probably harmless. I've heard most spirits barely even notice humans

Be honest— us tagging along wasn't that bad? At least you had company
It was a bother. If you decide to do something of this nature again, at least refrain from pressuring Reynir into joining you
Um—
Did you assume I wouldn't know what a manipulative younger sibling looked like in action?

So so— you've got a younger sibling? A brother or a sister?
Changing the subject immediately. Very good.
No. I really am curious! Brother or sister? I've got a brother, but you already knew that
I have enough of both kinds
And you're the oldest?
I'd say so.
Well technically—

Uh.
Mutiny.
No no
I assure you. I have no such intentions Let me explain
Bzzzz
Bzz
...So you see
by investigating this lead myself I simply saved you a day s worth of work
What you want a pat on the back?
Because I'm leaning towards straight up firing you right now
I see. Well, I believe you don't possess the authority to do that
Oh shut up! I have the authority to leave your ass behind in a ditch somewhere.
zZz
Lalli we're back!
BZzzt
By the way, I need some fixing with my arm bandages
Yes, I noticed
Bzzt

Noo!
B3?4!
I'm sorry I left! please don't hang up!
---lo?! Hello?!
Tuuri calling in! Is someone there?! Please still be there!
Trond here
Thank gods! Im so sorry we were outside and-
Tuuri! Is all well!?
Umm what?
Is...?
It's me I'm here
Eeee! You came! You were brave enough! I knew you would be! Or- no. I didn't! But you are! Did you miss us so bad that you had to follow us?!
Were you so sad?!
...No, I was quite alright by myself. Had time to think this all through and made the calm, rational decision to relocate here
Oh... huh. That's good I really thought you'd be more broken up about us being gone. And about having to experience new things. Was I worrying about you for nothing?
You should never worry about me

Weren't you going to communicate through Laili? What happened with that?
There are complications
Nothing you need to be concerned about
?
Hey, you reached them! Excellent!
Siv! Taru!
That's the cue for non essential personnel to clear the area
We can talk more tomorrow, Onni! Love you!
This is Torbjörn! Who am I speaking with?
Mikkel! Good evening
Ah, hello Mikkel! How are you all faring?
Who was that you were talking to?
Very well, nobody is dead or dying. And we do have an interesting find to report, and a suggestion for a location to visit. Do you have a map of Denmark as a whole at hand?
Why, yes we do! Trond, would you be a kind soul and fetch one of the atlases?
No rest for the old and weary...
I hope the food isn't too awful.
This tastes like cat spit
He said it's delicious and thank you.
Do I have to get seriously worried here or what?
Come oooon.
Wake up already!

Really? Nobody else cares even a little bit?
It's the site of an ancient hospital!
Quite a way off your trail, but potentially reachable.
This is a nice find, Mikkel!
Thank you.
Woooow, somebody give this guy a medal already!
Just imagine!
How valuable would an ancient formula for a cure or vaccine be?!
Hrmh... I would like to underline that we have no solid information about what the vials contained...
A working cure seems unlikely as of now. I'm judging purely from the abundance of human remains at the location, as I do believe the ideal for any treatment is to not end up with many of those
That's still alright!
Are you saying that anything they find would be better than what we currently have, since the last half a century of research has been an utter waste of time and my job has been pointless.
Isn't that right, honey?
If it was distributed it must have been good for something. Even a half-finished vaccine would be an invaluable asset to the research program in our country
N-no, I didn't mean it like
Because that would be correct

Well there you have it, might be worth changing your itinerary just tiny bit. I'm assuming you all aren't terribly opposed to the idea?
We'll pay overtime, of course! ...Somehow.
Taru, what's your take on checking out the place?
Yes or no?
Mmm... no.
You mean yes?
Nnno
Overextending in a situation with limited resources while in uncharted territory is simply moronic and unnecessarily "checking out" far-flung places might as well be the definition of over-extending. Stick to the plan, pick up some books, be back home before spring, the end.
My professional opinion.
I hate to be negative, but I'll have to agree with Taru.
Maybe it's wisest to bring the information back and just let a better equipped expedition investigate it in the future. What's there now will still be there in a decade. Or two.
But I suppose it's your call, Sigrun. What do you think?
I think you're sounding a little wimpy there.
We're already out here eating inedible sludge, might as well make it count for something.

There's zero reason to back down from a challenge, even babies know that
I say me go!
I'm going to assume my advice was discarded
That's what I hoped to hear! It's decided then!
What are they talking about now?
Not doing something dangerous.
Tuuri are you ready to take some notes for the drive?
All ready!
I'll go warm up that inedible sludge for us.
Now hold on just a second
We still have problem here unless you know what to say
...I'm sorry, and I swear not to do anything outside the range of assigned profession without permission from you
Good. And I admit that your dumb stunt ended up being not all dumb
Thank you
I'm keeping you on my mutinist risk list though
You have a list?

M-hm
HAZEL MADSEN
Most people tend to include more than one item when they make lists.
Sounds to me like most people need to start making more focused and less stupid lists
Now chop chop food!

We need to
go.

Remember those spirits? At the place? Well they're here now and I dreamt that they were going to kill us and you need to drive us away from here! To somewhere else!
Umm... calm down First of all, the sun is setting, it's not like we can go anywhere. But we might relocate tomorrow so just...
No no no not tomorrow! They're coming to eat us right now!
We've got to go now!
We-
Uhh, Sigrun?
Reynir has a question...
Tell Sigrun!
?!
...so he really insists that we drive somewhere else. Tonight, not tomorrow.
I... don't understand the question.
There wasn't even a question in there! Is the question "is he a moron"?

The question is can we go somewhere now?
No! Are you a moron? Have you noticed that it's evening?
Tell him to tell the ghosts to go away if he's so bothered by them!
Sorry Try to get them off your mind they're really probably not dangerous
Sigrun said we're not going no matter what
Drive anyway who cares what Sigrun says!?
You're fine with breaking orders!

Quit that!
I think you should go to bed
I don't know what to do! I don't know what to do!
I can't do anything!
...
Nh...
Ynh...

Phh?
Grkh!
!
See?! Now he's choking! Would someone who knows what to do get over here?
Akh!
Kh-
!!AAAAAAAA!!

Hey! Shake the guy awake! We can't have a blasting siren like that!
AAIIII!!!
I'm trying! He won't wake up!
Well try har-
-der...
Mi-
MRR!!
MRIIII!!!

...!
Eee!
VRRRR
Eee!
RA RRR...!!
We're all going to die!
!?!
!AUUU!!!
G-go away!
Please go away!
MRIIIH!

How-
can I-
-make you go away?!
Rrrr!

I need help!
Yeep!
Yonh!

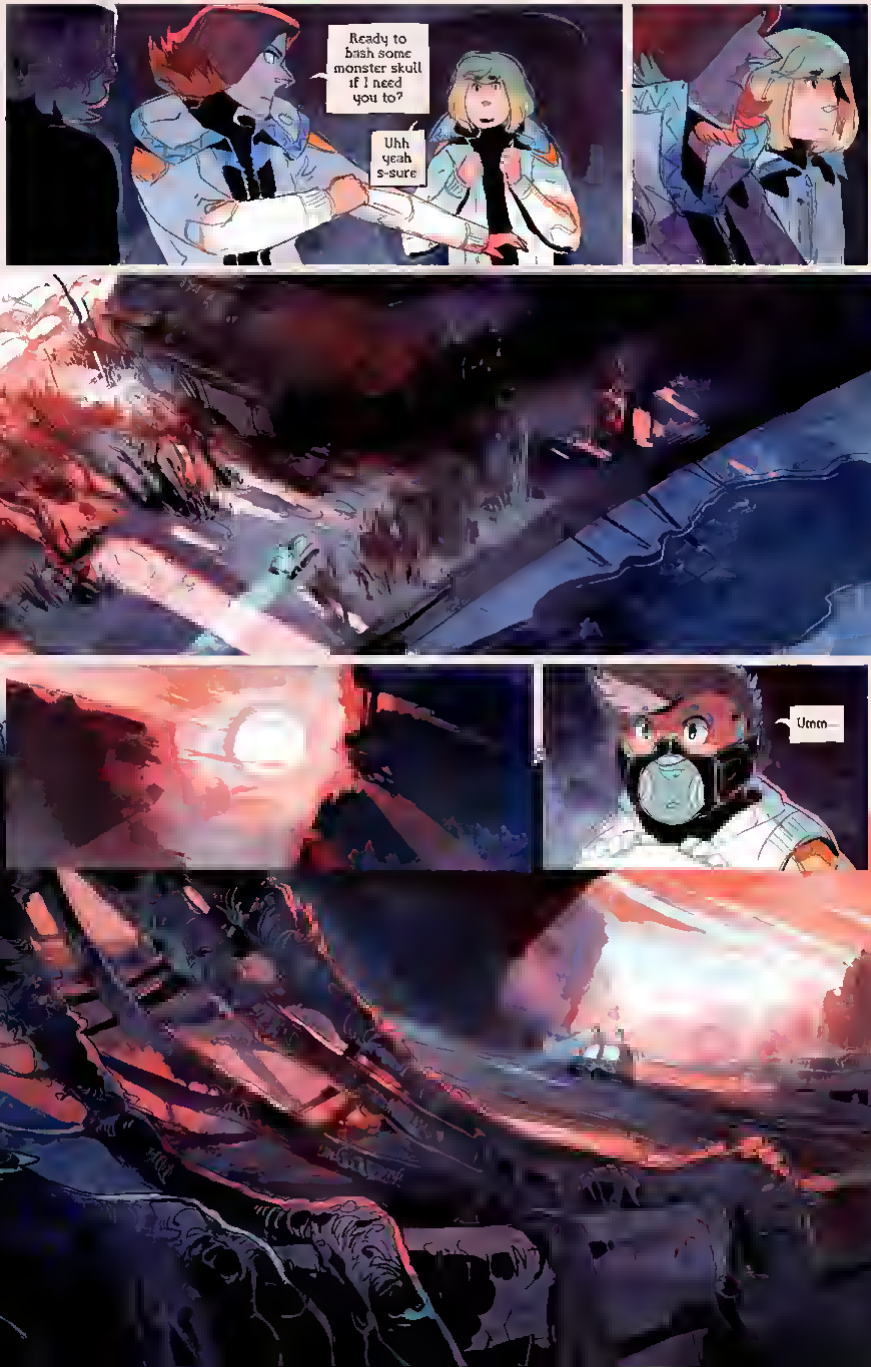
I don't know what you are but you have no place here.
~
Liekö syntyä hiitolasta tahi saastuneen sanoista?
Silti sorru sanomaani tarvu tumma tahtohoni– Lähe häivy hihtämähän, paha pakoon pinkomahan
~

?!!

Oops!
SNIP!
Uh-oh
Daaad! The new babysitter is really boring!
The babysitter is not supposed to be- STOP! Stop that!
Ow
Uff
Z

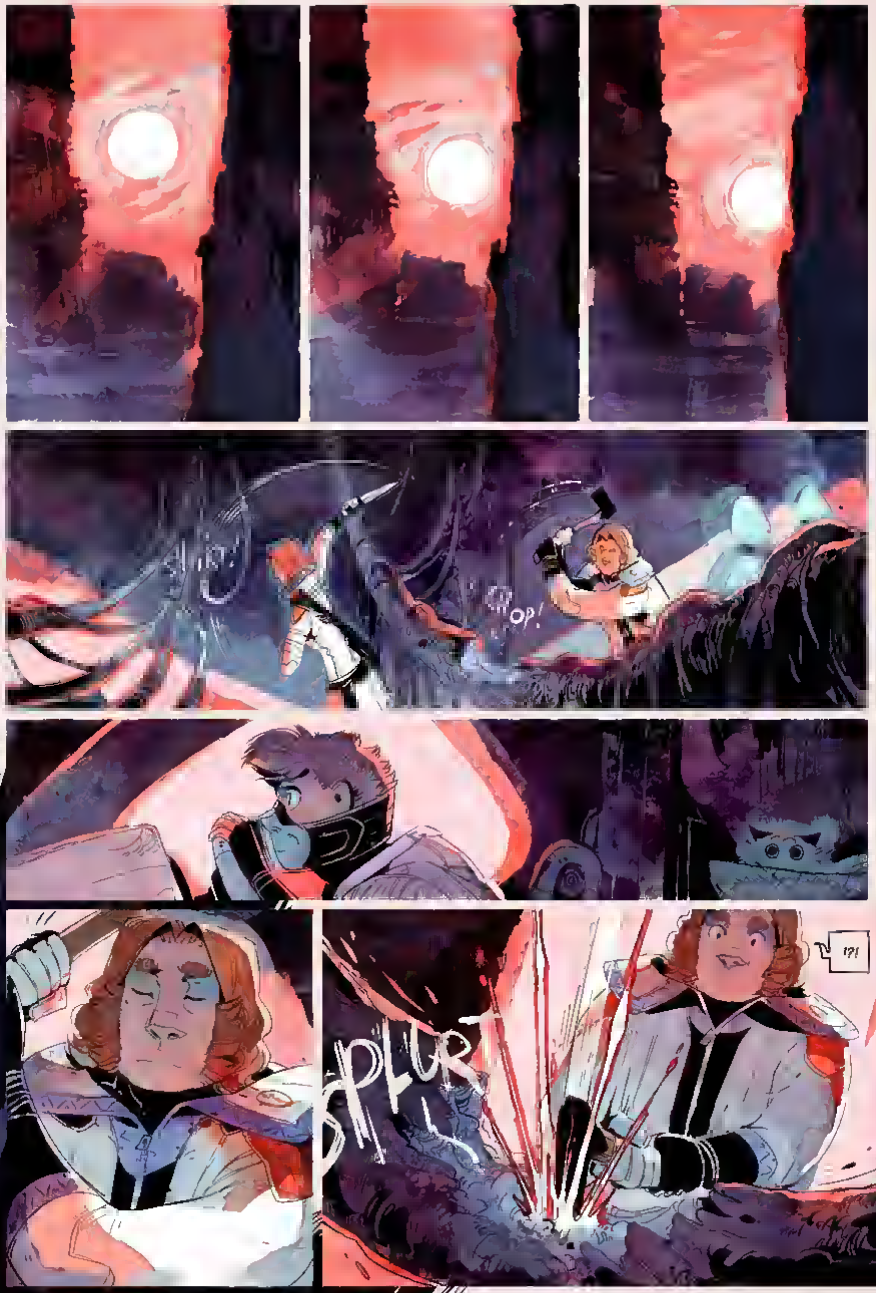
RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRMMM
Don't be mad! I had to! I'm sorry!
Stop talking. Focus! Find us somewhere to camp before the sun is down!
And before you make us the target of every single living thing in this city!
T-that's what I'm try-
-ing ?
!?

THWAM!!
SPLASH!
...Keep driving. We need to get out of the city now.
Seems to me like you added the wrong person to your list of mutineers
Shut up Mikkel! Do something useful!
I don't understand what's been happening!
Shut up, Emil! Nobody else does either!


Ready to bash some monster skull if I need you to?
Uhh yeah s-sure
Umm...

...
Eee...
No, stop!
No turning around!
We're going through here!
KHWAK!!!
SHWOP
Yes- this is dead We'll have a gap cleared in no time
Good
Eeek!
Uh-huh?

Go keep watch out on the road, make sure nothing sneaks up on us while we take care of this.
Feel free to kill anything you see
Okay, I can do that I guess?
But no gunshots, please and thank you
Okay
Oookay
...
...
Why do I always have to do this?


OP!
SPLURT
!?!

UF
SRRK

THWAM
SPLASH

Oy! Hey!
Mikkel!
You're a pretty strong guy, you'll be able to pull me up with something, right?

I'll fetch a rope!
Hurry up, it's getting a bit chilly down...
... here...
Mikkel!
I'm on my way hold on!
Tell Tuuri to start driving and get some distance in between the tank and this place right now

Are you certain?
Yeah, yeah, we'll catch up on foot. A nice little evening stroll will be good for us!
Follow the direction of the train tracks, they'll lead you out of the city.
And don't stop until you find a place to camp!
SWISH

Am I needed back?
?
THUP
TAP
THUMP
...Shoo?

STOMP
THWOOHH
SLASH
SPLAM

Gasp!
SWASH!!

Thok!
Hey you, you— monster!
Fik
Look over here!
Please
—

Hrrkh!
Host
Host
Krhhf!
Host
We have to-!
!?
KRRK
KRRK!
KRRAK
KRRAK
KRRAK
EEEM
-ill...

SPLAM

How do we handle the big one?
Keep walking
We'll kill it the easy way

There stuck and stranded
Now it ll freeze or dry to death eventually
That s how we take care of the sea beasts back home that are too large to hack to death

That seems a bit cruel to be honest...
Yeah... it's not super great. Doesn't have any of the honor of chopping your foe's head straight off.
It's why I didn't go into the seafaring business myself
So if fuzz-head is driving to the edge of the city how far away would that be?
No more than ten kilometres
Great, so... two hours of walking? Cool
Sounds about right
Please don't scratch your arm

I'm sorry! I know you said to keep driving, but I couldn't just go and-
Calm down, you're forgiven. *This* time. Don't ignore my orders again, thanks.

Uh, hello?

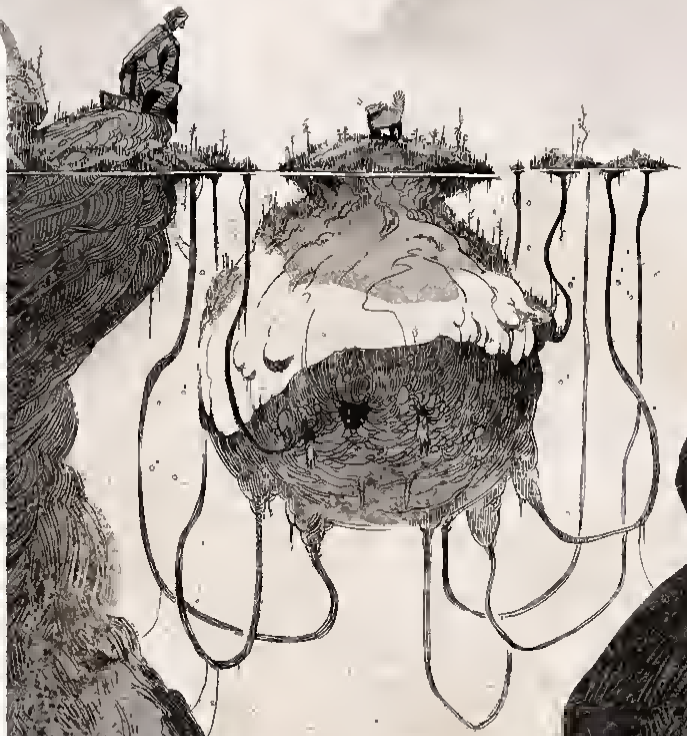
zZz

SJØDRAUG

This type of troll is most commonly found in sheltered bays and coves along the Norwegian coast, but they have occasionally been encountered in various bodies of water in many different environments.

The sjødraug are believed to be the result of early trolls who became trapped in water during their initial stages of forming, and whose bodies subsequently adapted to the new environment. They are typically massive and bloated, extremely passive, and not uncommonly nearly immobile as a result.

A disturbed sjødraug can, however, be treacherously dangerous if it reaches land and has an ability to move, as their exaggerated volume of external body tissue makes them a challenge to kill.



Note: The sjødraug should not be confused with the far more agile and ferocious sea beasts.

FYLGJA

The companion spirit, given at birth to those that out gods consider their own. We rarely see them, often don't regard their presence, but they are a constant throughout our lives that tie us with out fortunes and fates. Those who possess the ability to traverse the spiritual realm may seek guidance from their fylgja to catch a fleeting glimpse of things to come.

Do godless individuals possess a fylgja?

Yes. Our faithless Swedish and Danish brethren have not been abandoned despite their lack of belief, and are also given this wonderful gift. But with no faith they will forever remain blind to the existence of these benevolent beings.

Finns, however, do not. These heathens have been provided for by their own gods.

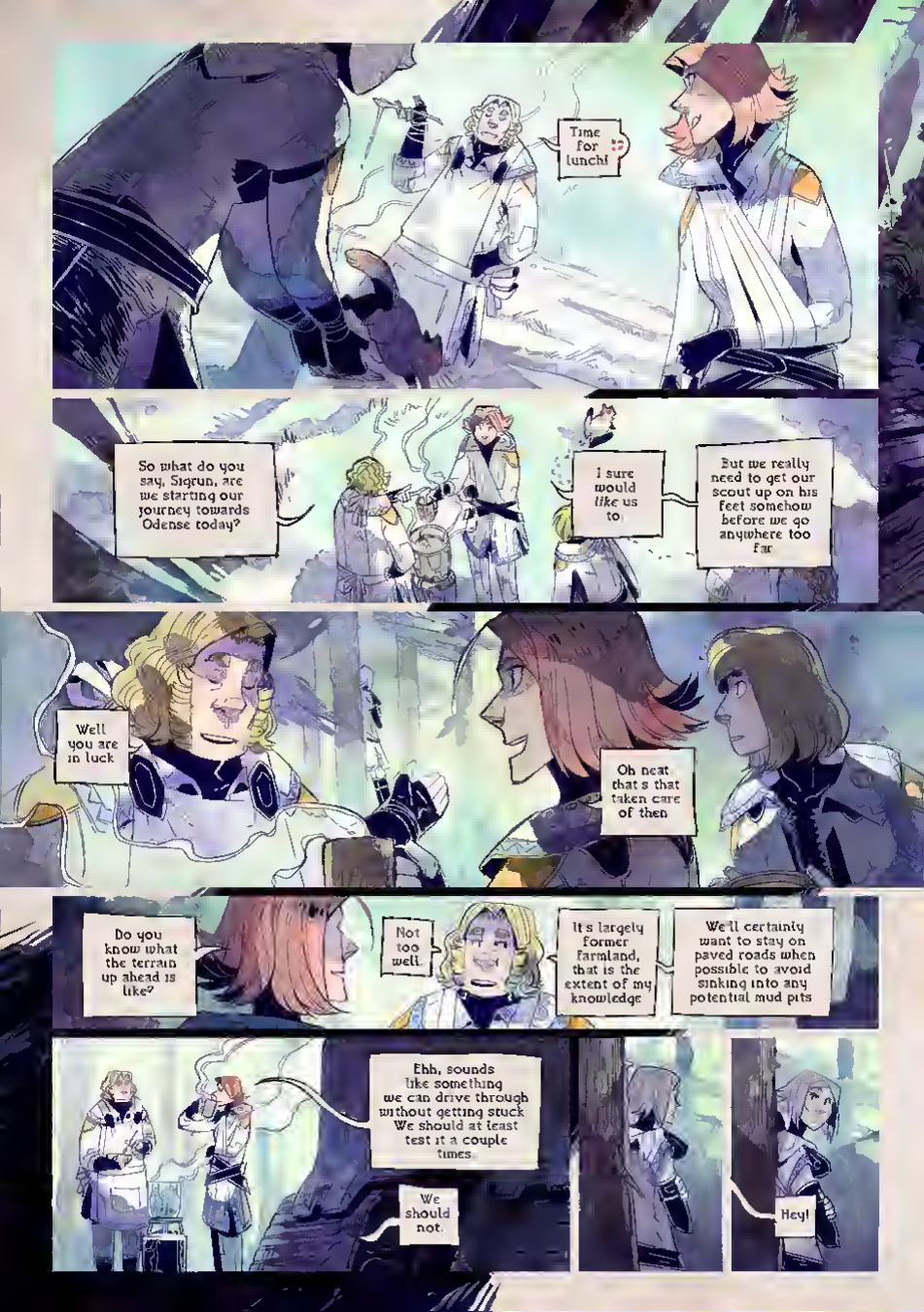
11

Lalli!
Wake up!
Hi!
Welcome back!
We've all been really worried about you
Ah...
Hey everyone!
Look who's finally back up!

You! Awesome job finding this camping spot for us!
You really do pull your weight
Today we will celebrate with a mighty feast.
My hair is super dumb and I'm going to cut it all off!
Everyone's saying how much they appreciate and admire everything you do for us!
I know, I understood.
I don't need you to translate for me

...
...
...
...
... so she needs a name that's cute, but also great. And a bit intimidating too.. maybe?
How about "Gräddnos"? I think it'd fit her well!
A classic name for a classy cat!
It was just a suggestion..
I'm trying to get the ideas ball rolling here
No, stop. The cat will not get some dumb Swedish name.
I don't hear anyone else coming up with better names...
Köh!

Are there any good multi national cat names?
I'd say "Magnus".
A proper name for any good cat
No, dumb.
Oh, you're awake.
Also it's a boy name.
Don t wander too far, the food is almost ready
This whole discussion is dumb. It's a kitten, I'm going to keep calling it "Fusekett."
You know, after all this time I probably couldn't stop calling her kitty. Hi, little "Kisa."
"Kisu."
"Kissekett."
"Missekatt."


Time for lunch!
So what do you say, Sigrun, are we starting our journey towards Odense today?
I sure would *like* us to.
But we really need to get our scout up on his feet somehow before we go anywhere too far.
Well you are in luck.
Oh neat, that's that taken care of then.
Do you know what the terrain up ahead is like?
Not too well.
It's largely former farmland, that is the extent of my knowledge.
We'll certainly want to stay on paved roads when possible to avoid sinking into any potential mud pits.
Ehh, sounds like something we can drive through without getting stuck. We should at least test it a couple times.
We should not.
Hey!

Hungry yet?
That was quite a nap, huh?
Got us a little worried even...
Åtminstone mig, din kusin verkade inte särskilt oroad.
...which is when I punched it so hard that it died

Hey short stuff, be a dear and herd your cousin to work for me
Y-yes, right away!
munch munch
munch munch
Do something about your hair, it's a disgrace of a mess.
Thank you?
Hiii there.
Did you wake up in a bad mood?
Are
you
hungry?
Good! Now let s-
Why aren t we at the other place!?
Um?
The one I found! In the city! I worked really hard and it was really good!

Oh, that!
It was good but got overrun by ghosts and we had to move on.
So we drove for a bit and ended up here
You know, finding a safe camping spot turned out to be really easy
Come on now, we need you back at work.
~and you don't mind continuing so soon?
Oh yeah, no we're all super stoked for going right away. Isn't that right, Mikkel?
Yes
Excellent! This makes us very glad to hear!

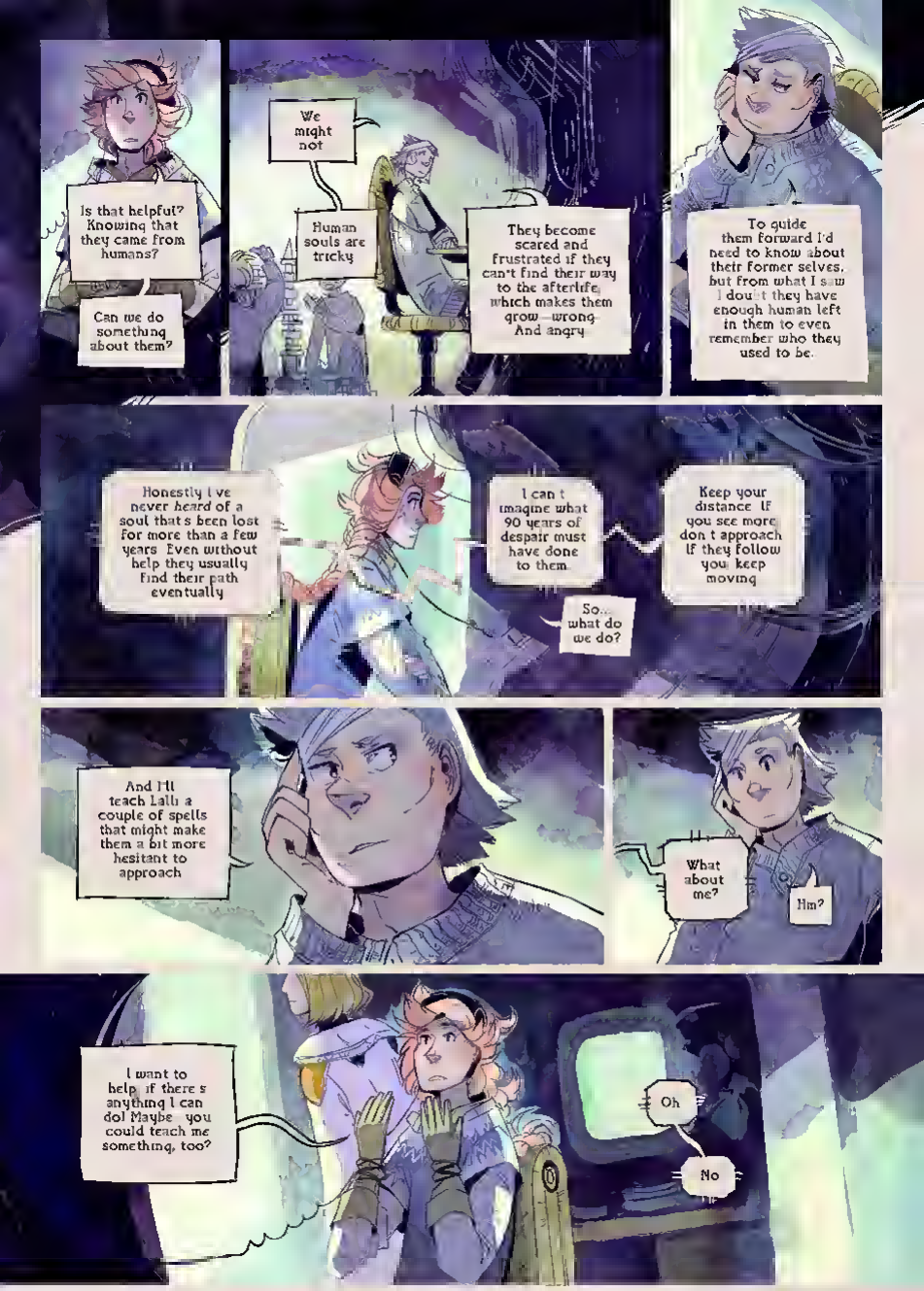
My turn get out
Check back in anytime!
Tuuri, are you there?
What a-again? But we already talked _
Hey, anyone?
Did someone turn this thing off?
Hello!?
Pst, Mikkel!
I need a favour!
Could you help me with my brother for a while, please?
Sometimes he becomes very need— um, chatty when he's worried, and I have to work with Lalli right now Maybe you could distract him? But don t make him feel like I m snubbing him!
Of course
Thank you!
M-hm
Hello. I'm speaking with Onni Hotakainen, I presume?
Who is this?
This is Mikkel Madsen, one of your sister s co-workers. She is too busy to speak with you right now and I m here to distract you
So
what were you hoping to discuss?

Can't remember what was on your mind?
That is quite alright, happens to the best of us...
So tell me how has your day been? Would you say that...
you-
Hey! Mikkel!
Yes?
Is that Tuuri's brother on the line?
Can I talk with him?
Wait your turn, we are currently in the middle of a riveting discussion
No you aren't! Please, please please, let me use the radio!
I need to ask things!
Let me speak with him

Hi, this is me! Reynir that is!
Do you remember me?
I do, I don't have a problem with my memory
I've been hoping to have a word with you
Hello? Did this thing turn off again?
Ah!
Sorry!
I didn't expect your Icelandic to sound so... um... bad. I mean... special!
I-I'll get used to it
Did you have a question?
Oh, yes!

First of all! thank you for last night, that was awesome!
Yes, yes
Okay, so remember the ghost things that attacked us?
I guess what I really wanted to find out is- what exactly were they?
Do you know?
Hm
I don't
Oh
I've never met spirits like those before I couldn't get a read on them What's your theory?
Uhh... huh? I don't have a theory! I have no idea about anything! That's why I'm asking you
Hm? Is the training in Iceland really that lousy?
Oh no no- you've misunderstood!
I don't have any training! I didn't even know I was a mage before I work on a farm With sheep!
I see That's disappointing
Yes Sorry
Stop apologizing, it's annoying You can still help me figure them out.

They're possibly some type of rogue natural spirits. Are those something you're usually able to sense?
The common ones around us like the ones in the air, the trees the animals and the mist
Can you see their kind?
Nnno
Definitely not. I guess they weren't *that* kind of spirits then?
Hm
Perhaps there is a *human* origin to them?
Ah. Yes!
Definitely! They came from these creepy old world sick rooms *stuffed* with beds and dusty old skeletons!
Oh, I should have mentioned that first. Sor—um, yeah

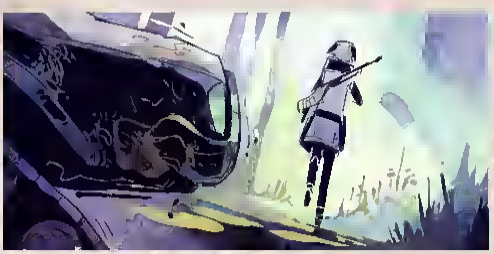

Is that helpful? Knowing that they came from humans?
Can we do something about them?
We might not
Human souls are tricky
They become scared and frustrated if they can't find their way to the afterlife, which makes them grow—wrong. And angry.
To guide them forward I'd need to know about their former selves, but from what I saw I don't think they have enough human left in them to even remember who they used to be.
Honestly I've never heard of a soul that's been lost for more than a few years. Even without help they usually find their path eventually.
I can't imagine what 90 years of despair must have done to them.
So... what do we do?
Keep your distance. If you see more, don't approach. If they follow you, keep moving.
And I'll teach Lalli a couple of spells that might make them a bit more hesitant to approach.
What about me?
Hm?
I want to help, if there's anything I can do! Maybe you could teach me something, too?
Oh
No

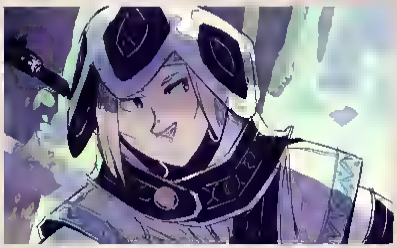
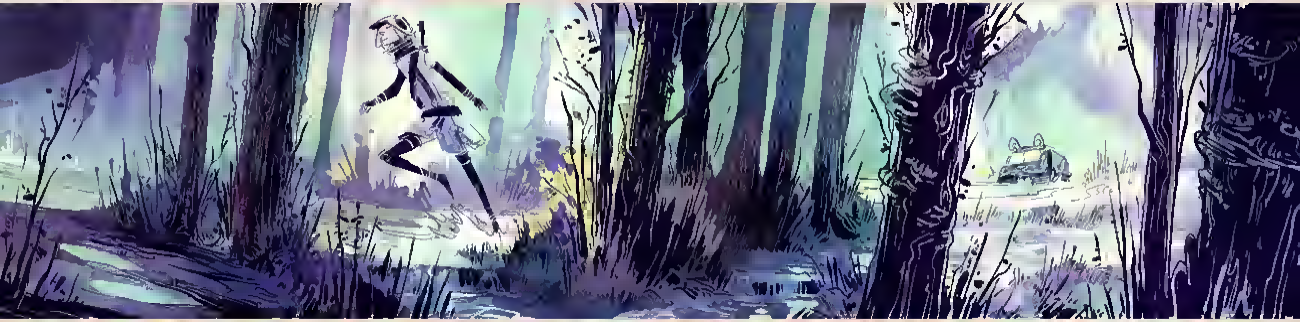
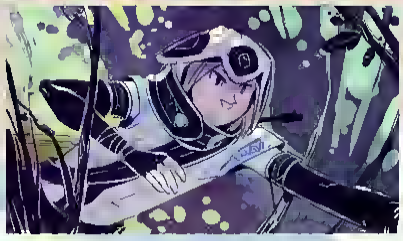
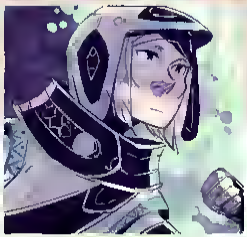
I won't be able to teach you the language to reach my gods, you'll have to seek help from your own
Well how do I do *that*? I don't know any useful runes can I just directly ask them for stuff? What if that offends them?
I'm sorry, I can't help you.
I don't know your gods.
Yeah... I suppose I don't know them that well either. Thanks anyway
Onni! I have time to talk now if you still want to!
No. I need to have a word with Laili.
THUMP
Seriously, what's his problem with me?

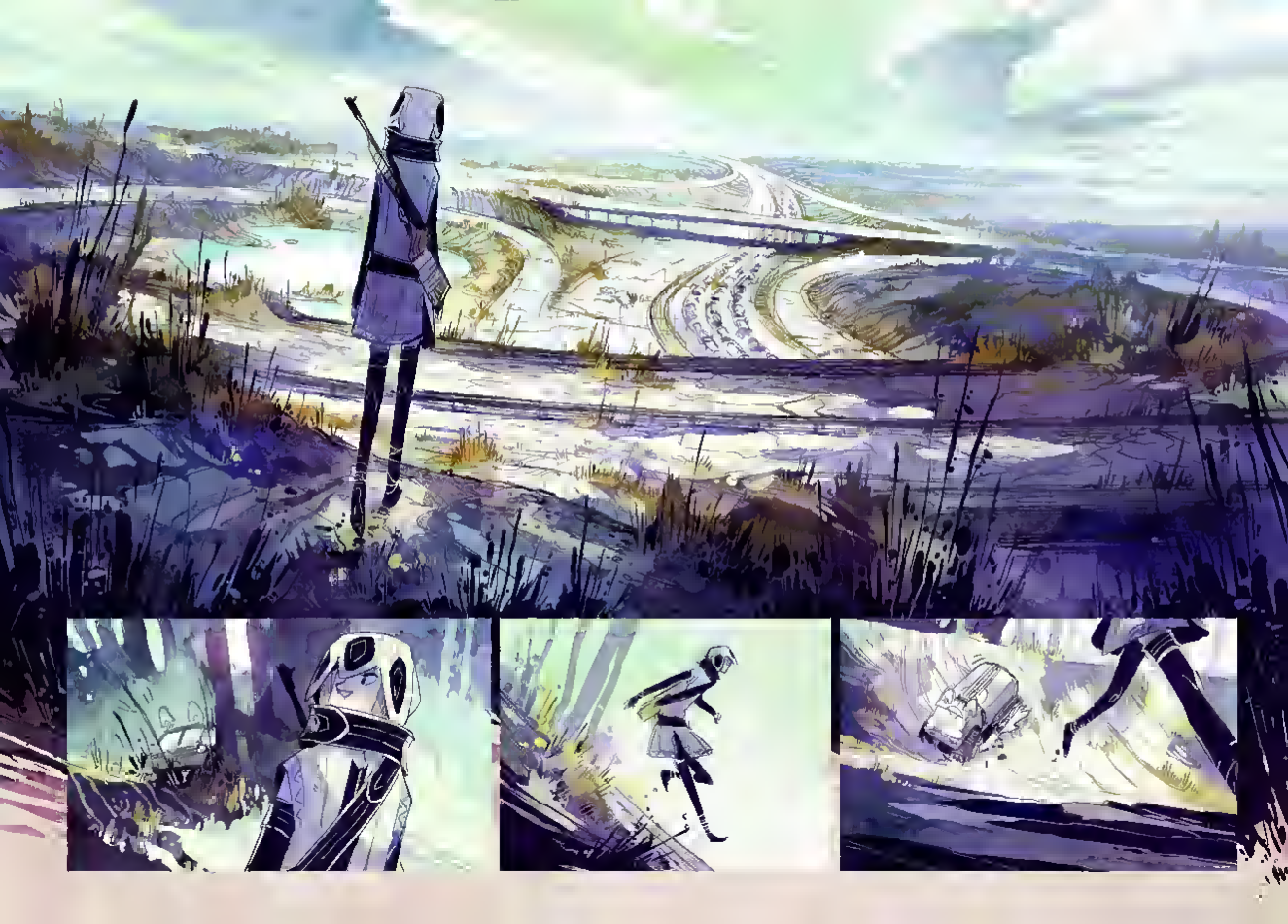
Um, you're on bad terms with each other?
You tell me, I have no idea! As far as I'm aware I haven't done anything wrong!
Could you *please* ask him?
I'll do that
But we probably won't get an answer, he *never* tells me what he's mad about when he's grumpy
Usually I just leave him alone until he's forgotten that he's in a bad mood
That works?
Well... sometimes it does take a few months, but I don't think he holds a grudge afterwards, so... try it... maybe?
Honestly, if I were ignored when I'm angry that'd make me even angrier
I guess
...
... I'm *not* going to do that

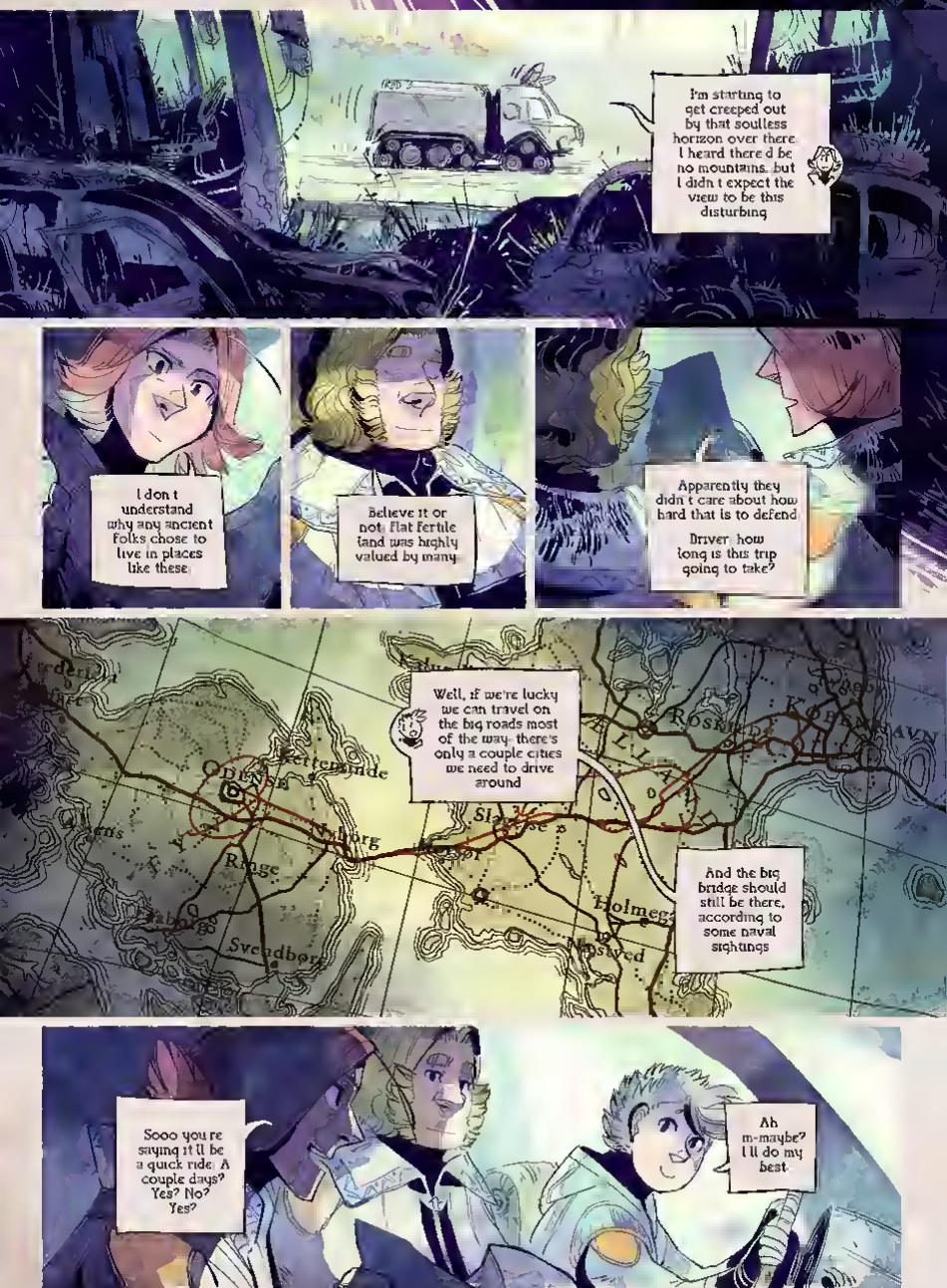
Uhh, hello and good morning to anyone up there. Odinn, or um, Freyja?
On the off chance that one of you is listening, I'd like to request some good luck and a bit of protection. Thank you, and bless you.
Oh. I'm not insinuating that I have the power to bless you. You blessing me is what I was getting at.
Wait, that sounded way too demanding! I didn't mean to, I just-I
Forget I said anything!
I'm sorry I bothered you! Please don't smite us because of this. I'm so sorry!
What was that?
I presume it was what you spiritual folks would call "praying".

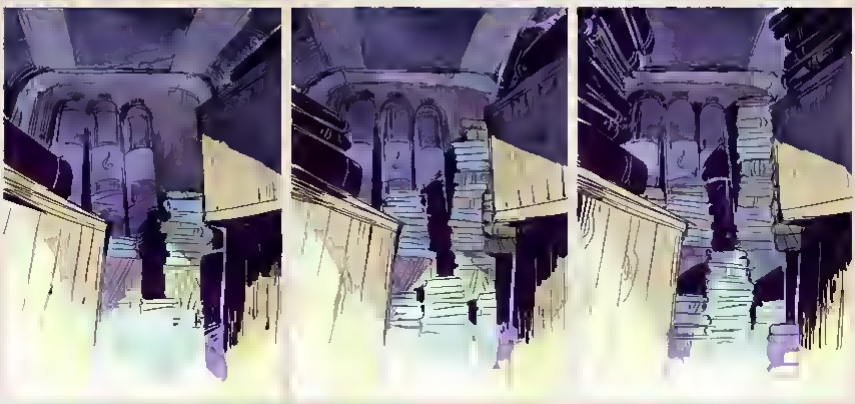
Well tell him to not be so wimpy about it the gods hate weaklings!
...I'll certainly pass on the advice

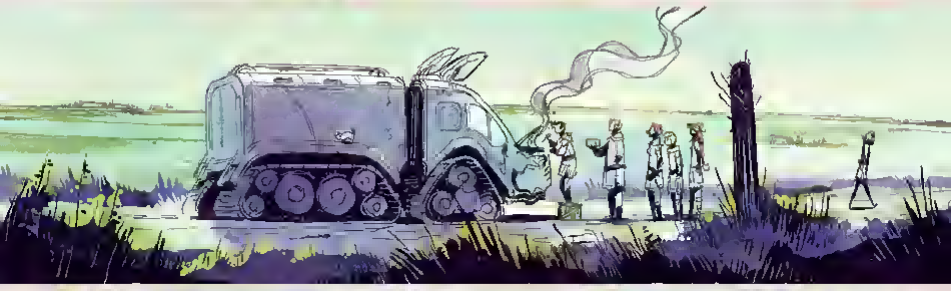


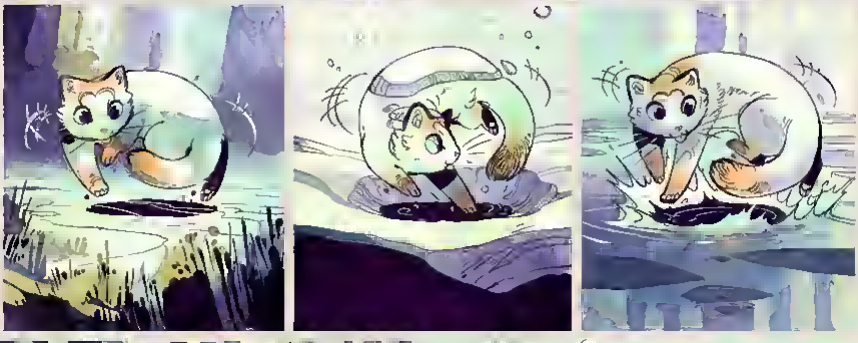





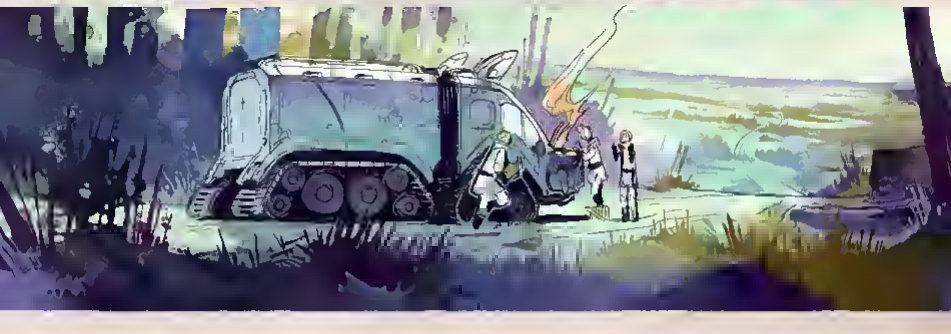


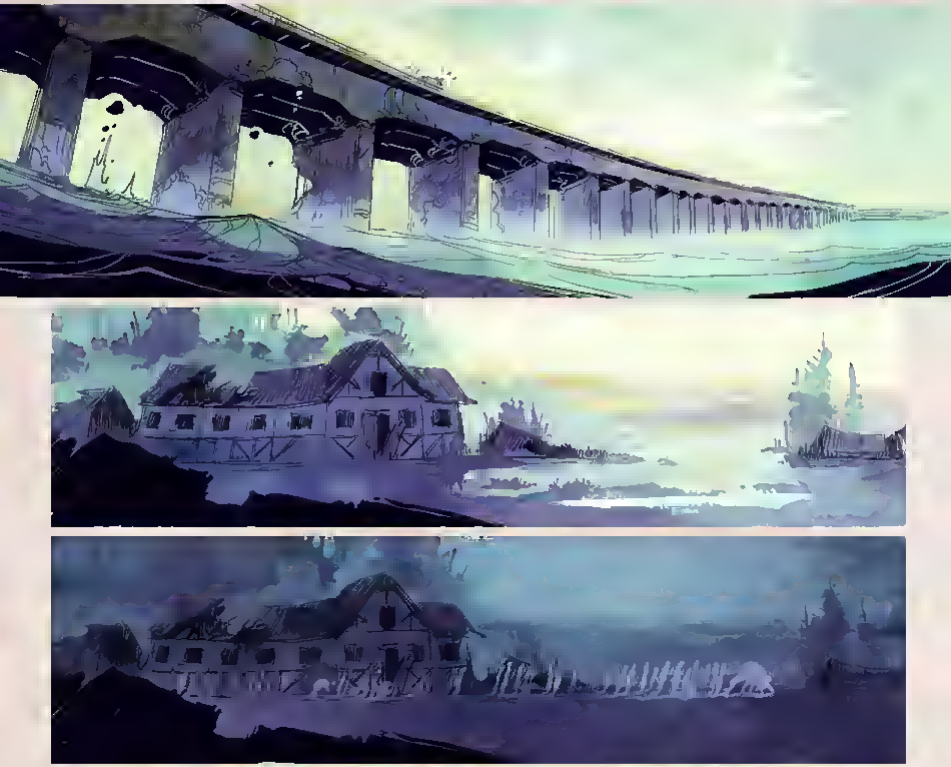

I'm starting to get creeped out by that soulless horizon over there. I heard there'd be no mountains, but I didn't expect the view to be this disturbing
I don't understand why any ancient folks chose to live in places like these.
Believe it or not, flat fertile land was highly valued by many.
Apparently they didn't care about how hard that is to defend.
Driver, how long is this trip going to take?
Well, if we're lucky we can travel on the big roads most of the way- there's only a couple cities we need to drive around
And the big bridge should still be there, according to some naval sightings
Sooo you're saying it'll be a quick ride. A couple days? Yes? No? Yes?
Ah m-maybe? I'll do my best.

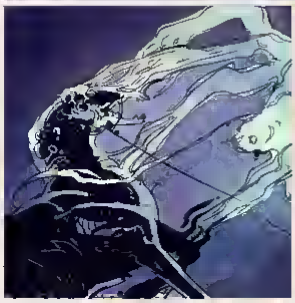
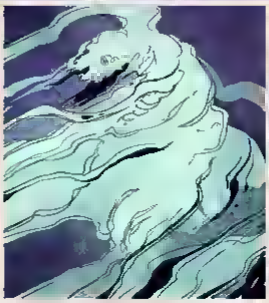
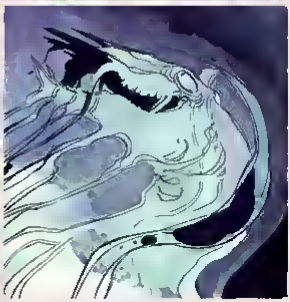


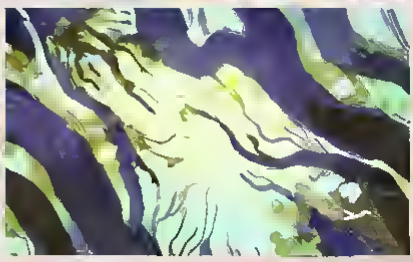






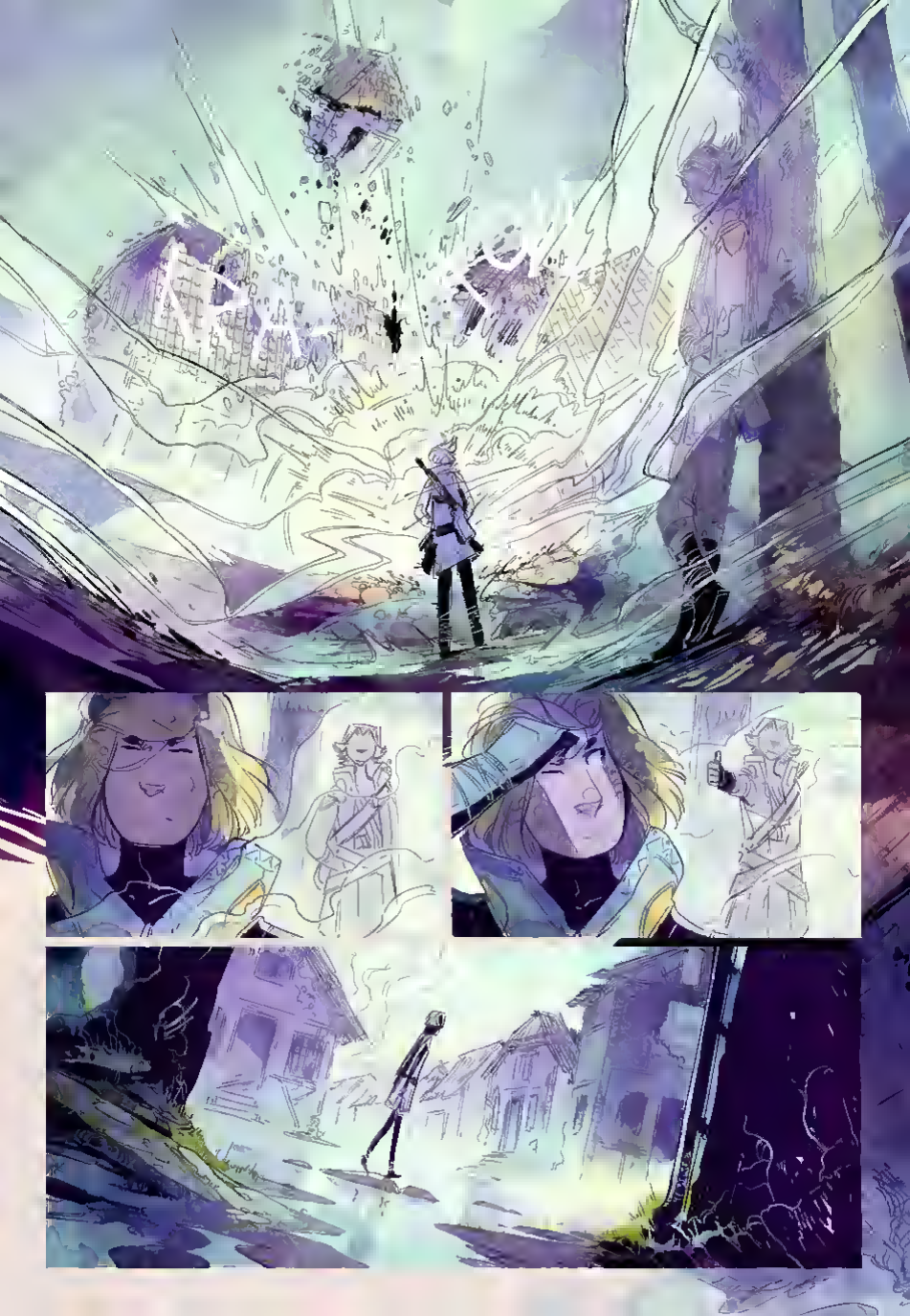




A COUPLE WEEKS LATER

THUNK

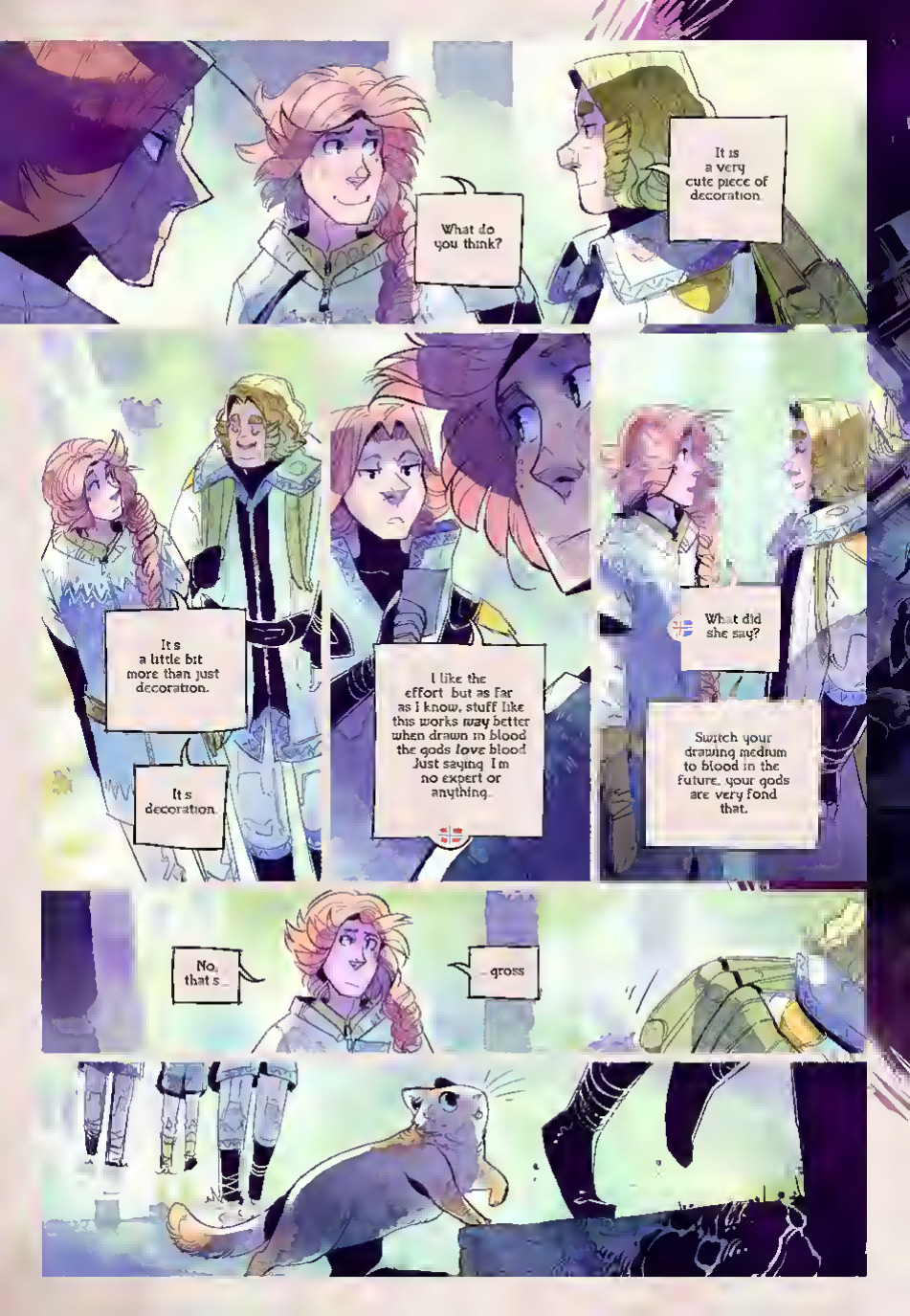


No .. danger..
Great.

We'll need to get our reinforcements to help carry all that junk
Good find twigs if you understand what I'm saying

Hy-
-yyy
...
...and the fact that you can carry as much as three random, boring dudes. I like that about you

So what I'm saying is, you're really good at muscles, which is great
I'm flattered
TSUF
What is this?
It's a protection rune that I made for us Pretty cool, huh?
I remembered seeing one that was used to keep the sheep from wandering too far from the rune, and I thought
...if I switch things around a little, it could instead keep *ghosts* from wandering too *close* to the rune, and to us
Does it work?
Uh—Maybe? Possibly! It's better than nothing at least...


What do you think?
It is a very cute piece of decoration.
It s a little bit more than just decoration.
It s decoration.
I like the effort but as far as I know, stuff like this works way better when drawn in blood the gods love blood Just saying I m no expert or anything.
What did she say?
Switch your drawing medium to blood in the future, your gods are very fond that.
No, that s...
...gross

Hey!
How do I say "good job" in Finnish again?
I can write it on your hand if you have trouble remembering
I'll remember!
Emil is trying to let you know that he thinks you've been doing a good job
I know
What's this?
It's a map, of the whole old world...
Why is it round?
Um... the world is round
I see
Makes sense I can feel it
Then why are all our other maps flat?
I think it's just easier that way
It's misleading and should be changed

These are some really odd runes
I don t think I can use them..
Do not touch anything, Reynir
I know what language that is It s called "Kung Fu"
Actually it s called "Chinalandic"
Gosh
Mandarin most likely
No it isn t mandarin is a fruit.
The word can refer to that too I m impressed you d know such a thing.
Oh yeah, we get a ton of fruit sent over from the greenhouses in Iceland I know all the fruits!
A mandarin tastes like a lemon that killed itself

Do you ever think there might be other people like us out there, far, far away? And maybe they've found a book in one of our languages, and they're now thinking "huh, what a weird language. I wonder if people who spoke it are still out there?" Wouldn't that be cool?
Yep, would be cool but that's way unlikely
How so?
Simple, the poor sods didn't have anywhere to go, they didn't have big forests, islands and mountains to hide in in the rest of the world like we do. They had big cities and fields.
I'm pretty sure there's mountains elsewhere too...
Dunno about that.
That right there looks like mountains people could live in, and it's definitely not from around here
Hey, you think that's a picture of an actual place that exists, or...?
I have no reason to believe otherwise

Let's go check it out then! If there might be a whole other nation out there we've got to at least go say hello! We're on a detour anyway how long will it take for us to get there?
Well, assuming we are able to keep this pace... a decade
Okay, let's not do that right now then What is it the other side of the world or something?
Figuratively speaking, yes.

I believe this is all we can carry today
Mikkel, what's this?
It's pieces of broken glass!
What did I tell you earlier?!
Everyone ready to head back?

I think we can agree that with the collection we have managed to accumulate we may all be proud upon our return to civilization.
Mm-hm
Good vacation
I'll miss this-
Odense

Lalli?
Do you need anything before you go?
Any questions?
Are we going home soon?
Oh... you're still homesick? I thought you'd been looking a bit... happier lately.
I'm fine. I don't hate everything here.
I just feel like we should go home.

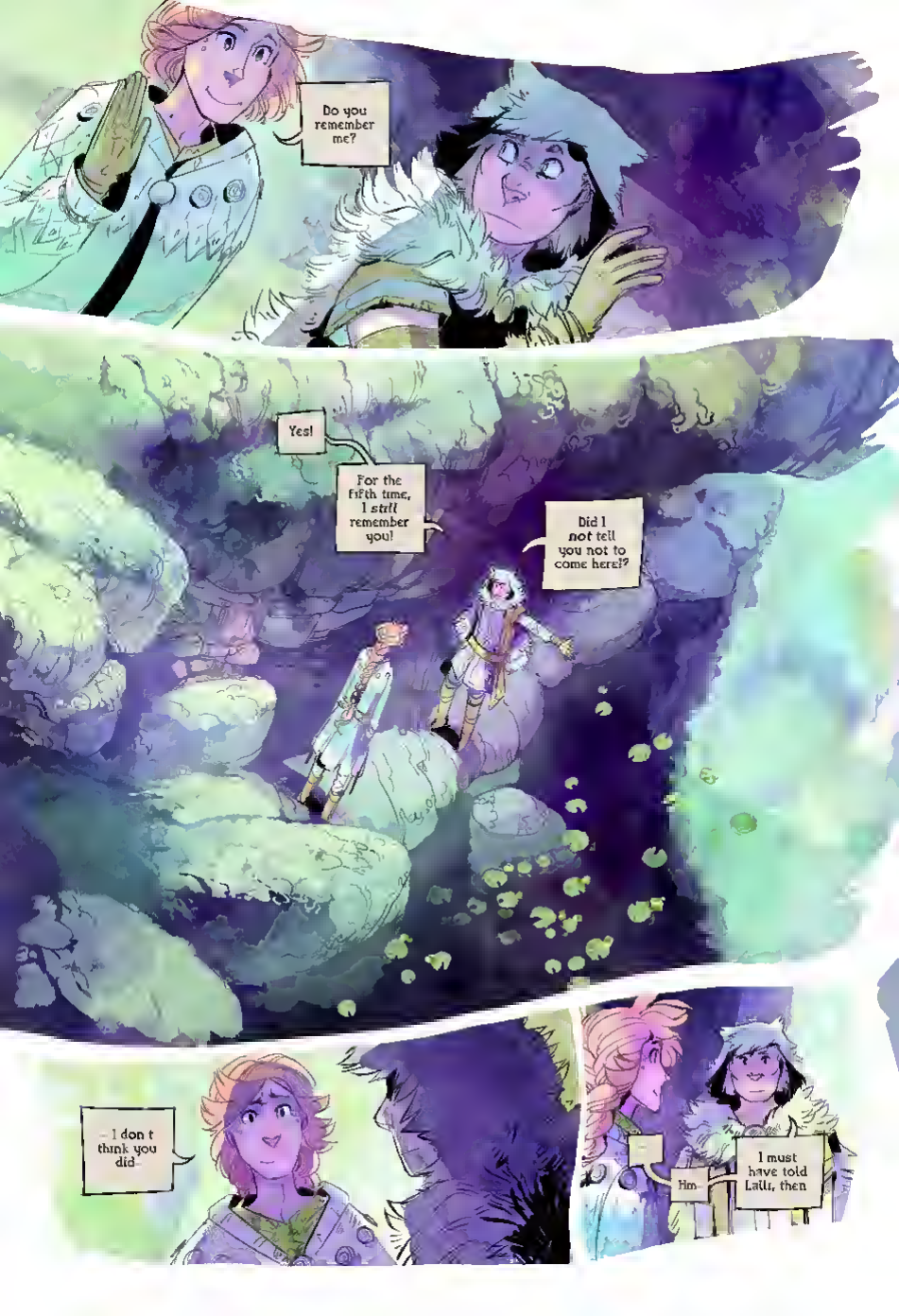
Well, we shouldn't stay long. We've technically completed our mission, this is the last stop
I think Trond is already trying to arrange for a ship with quarantine facilities to come pick us up
Mm
Sound okay?
Yes
You've done a good job
I know
Oh, hi there!
It's been a while huh?

I missed you too
Did you want to show me something again?
Is that another vision over there?
Go on, show me what's happening
?

There we go. Now what do we have here?
SKRIEK
SKRATCH

I know you can talk!
I shouldn't investigate this alone
You're not here, can't ask you to come with me

Hey!


Do you remember me?
Yes!
For the fifth time, I *still* remember you!
Did I *not* tell you not to come here!?
– I don't think you did–
Hm–
I must have told Laili, then

I need your help with something
Please use the radio...
I can't for this!
I found a weird place out there an empty house
I don't want to go in there alone, and my dog doesn't care!
Whatever it is, leave it be. And don't leave your space again
I'm not leaving it alone!
I've seen it in a vision before, there's some meaning to it!
What if the place could warn us about something dangerous, and we all die horribly because you told me to ignore it? Do you want that?!

Fine
Great! Follow me!
Right over there!
Come on!
Phhh!

What is this place?

It's a temple to one of the old world gods
This one was widely served in both of our nations for a significant time
For a thousand years by your people, 800 years by mine. These temples were raised in nearly every village
You must have come across one of them before.
Oh
Yeah, I guess I have seen a couple.
I've never gone inside one though
Or thought much about them. There's so many weird old buildings.
But why is this here?
I don't know. It holds no meaning to me
We should leave. It's not a vision. I see no benefit to lingering
?!

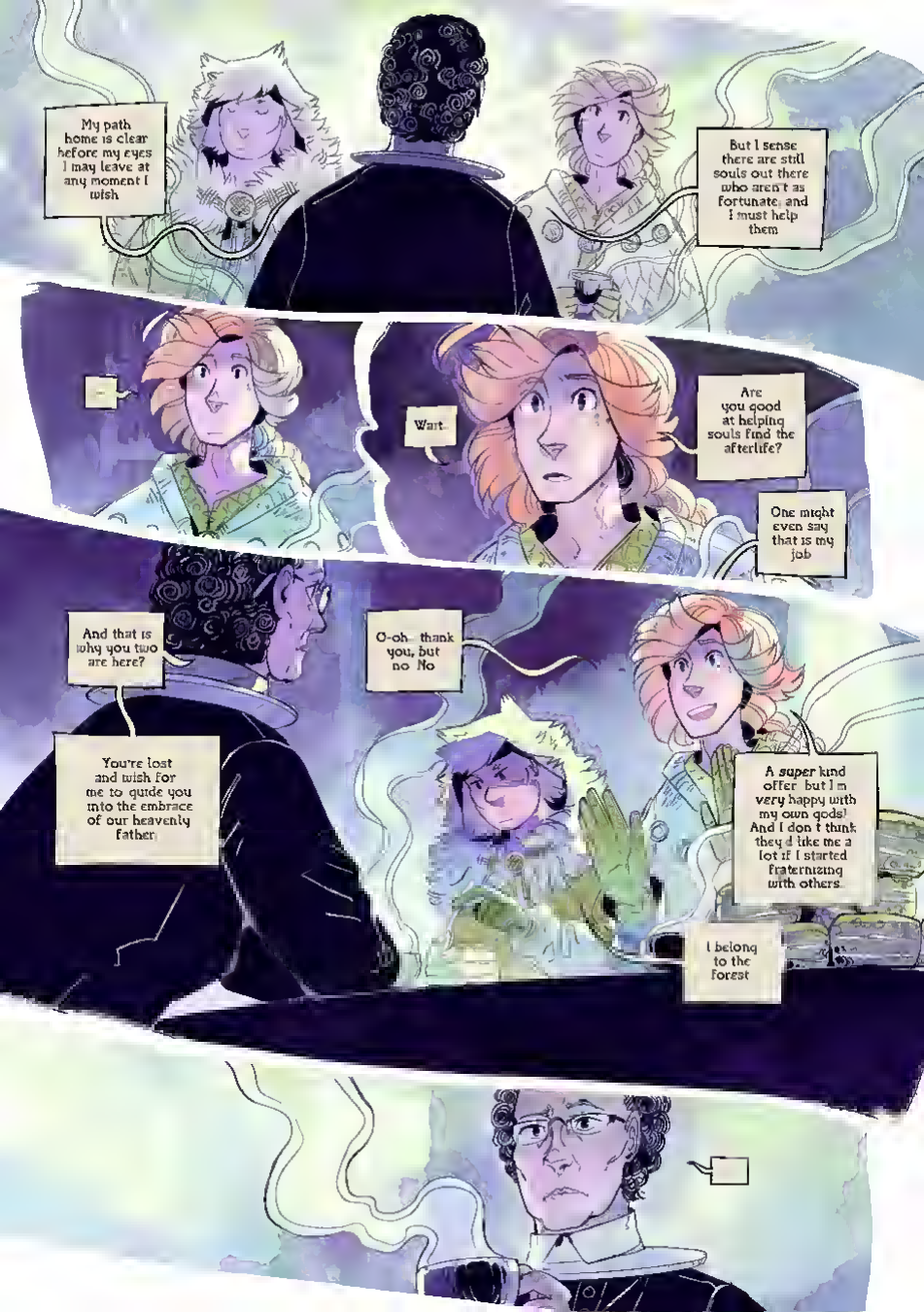
Hello
?!

Don't look it in the eyes
Um...
You're not strong enough to shield yourself...
I'll handle this
Okay.
Please calm yourselves
Who are you?
Hi. I'm Reynir, we're just-
Stop Speaking

Alright madam let me know who you are and I will guide you towards your destination It'll be quick and painless
You can be at rest
You seem confused I need no guidance I know where I am
And I have no intention of leaving just yet
Look, lady
You're dead
...I'm well aware.

Then I hope you also understand that it isn't good for your soul to stick around like this
I'm quite well thank you for your concern I still have a purpose in this world, and through my faith I will be protected
I'll leave once I'm no longer of use here
I do wish I knew when that might be
...Come We have no reason to linger
But-
Wait!
Please stay for a moment! I haven't spoken with anybody for such a long time
Umm...

Do you mind if I drink this?
Go ahead.
The old lady isn't very powerful. I can defeat her by myself if she is trying to pull something on us.
I'm glad one of you isn't afraid of me
Oh he's not afraid or anything, just cautious!
(This soup tastes gross.)
I'm also so very happy to see living souls!
The world was such a dark place when I passed, I was afraid that perhaps there was nothing to be salvaged
So... ah... you died from the illness?
Yes, I think I did
I can't quite recall
The memories of my life have grown fuzzy and elusive. I feel as if I've been here for several years now
Y-yeah
It's been a few years
And now you're stuck here?
My offer still stands
Child, I'm not "stuck"

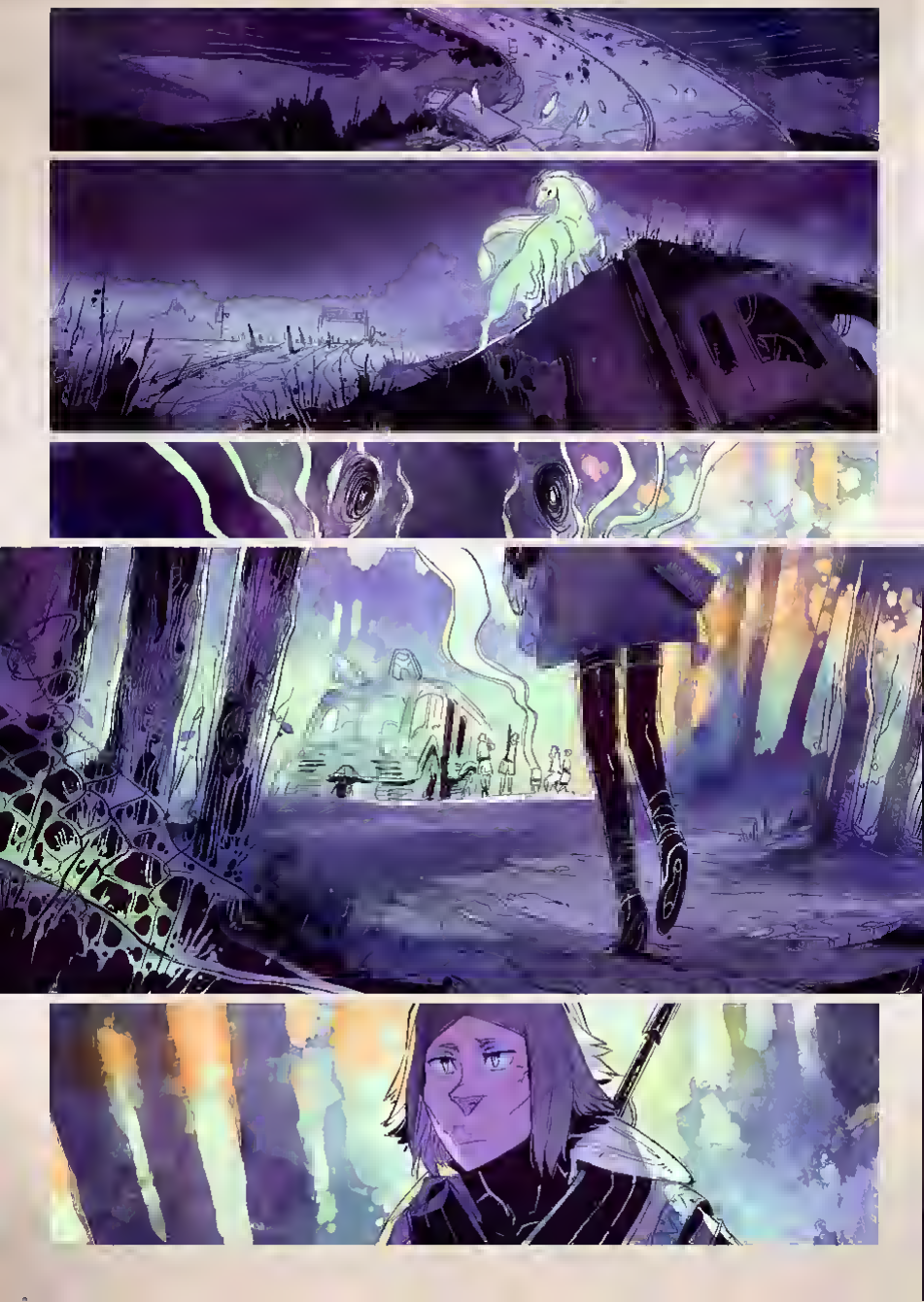

My path home is clear before my eyes I may leave at any moment I wish
But I sense there are still souls out there who aren't as fortunate, and I must help them
...
Wait...
Are you good at helping souls find the afterlife?
One might even say that is my job
And that is why you two are here?
You're lost and wish for me to guide you into the embrace of our heavenly father
O-oh... thank you, but no. No
A super kind offer... but I'm very happy with my own gods! And I don't think they'd like me a lot if I started fraternizing with others...
I belong to the forest

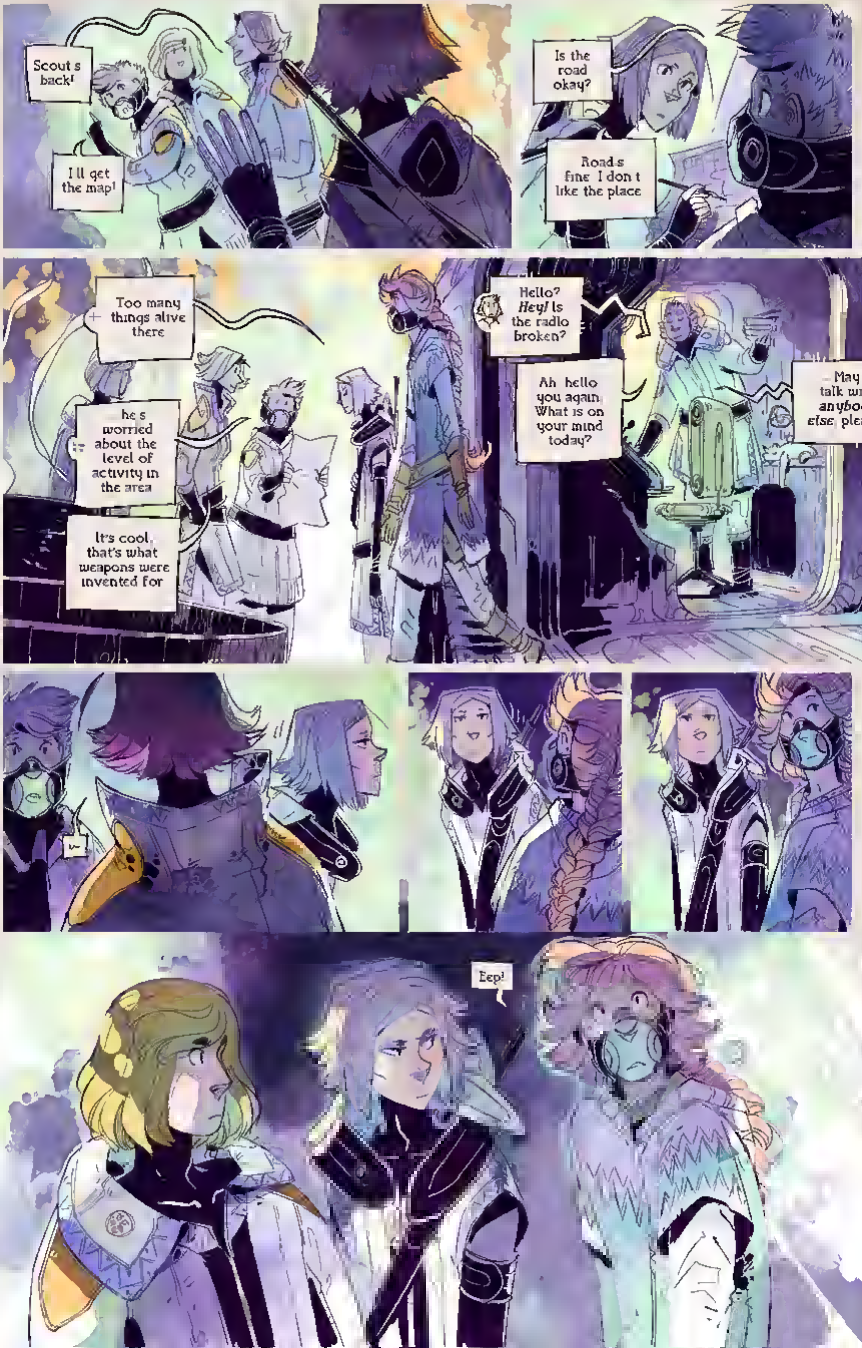
Perhaps it is for the best.
I can t remember what I was supposed to say in this situation either way
Don t feel bad though! I have a couple of really sad, dead souls following me right now- and I m sure they d love a way out! Does that sound like something you could help us with?
Of course! At the very least I d give it a try if you were to bring them to my church
Hear that? Isn t it great? Now you won t have to figure out how to handle the ghosts!
M-hm
How do I find this "church" of yours? Where is it?
Well...
Do you remember?

Please try!
I
really
can't
I'm sorry
re-member

I wish I could be of help
Don t worry about it, we ll find you
I'll find you.
Um, so, what's your name?
...
I believe it began with an "A".
Sounds like it was a nice name.
I think it was.
...It s time to leave

SNAP

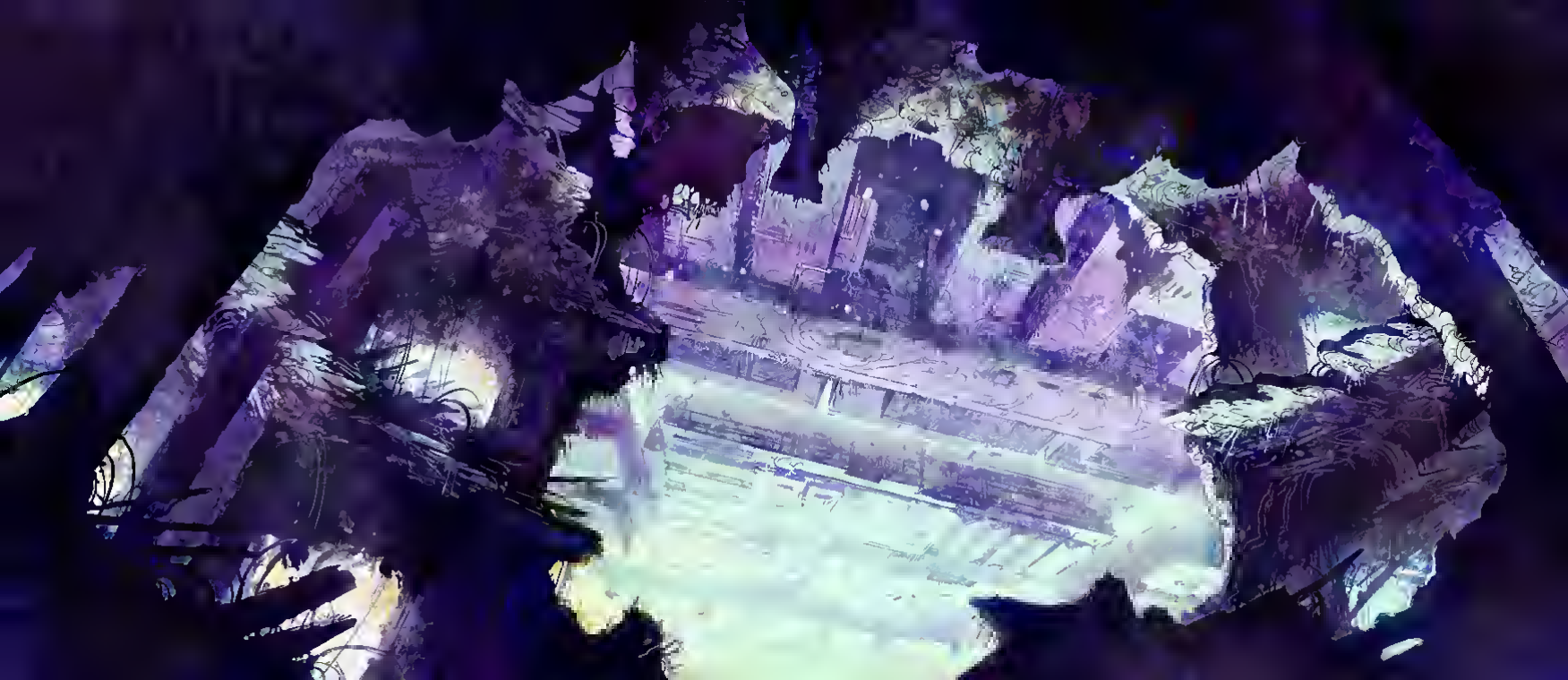



Scout's back!
I'll get the map!
Is the road okay?
Road's fine. I don't like the place
Too many things alive there
he's worried about the level of activity in the area
It's cool, that's what weapons were invented for
Hello? Hey! Is the radio broken?
Ah hello you again. What is on your mind today?
May I talk with anybody else, please?
Eep!

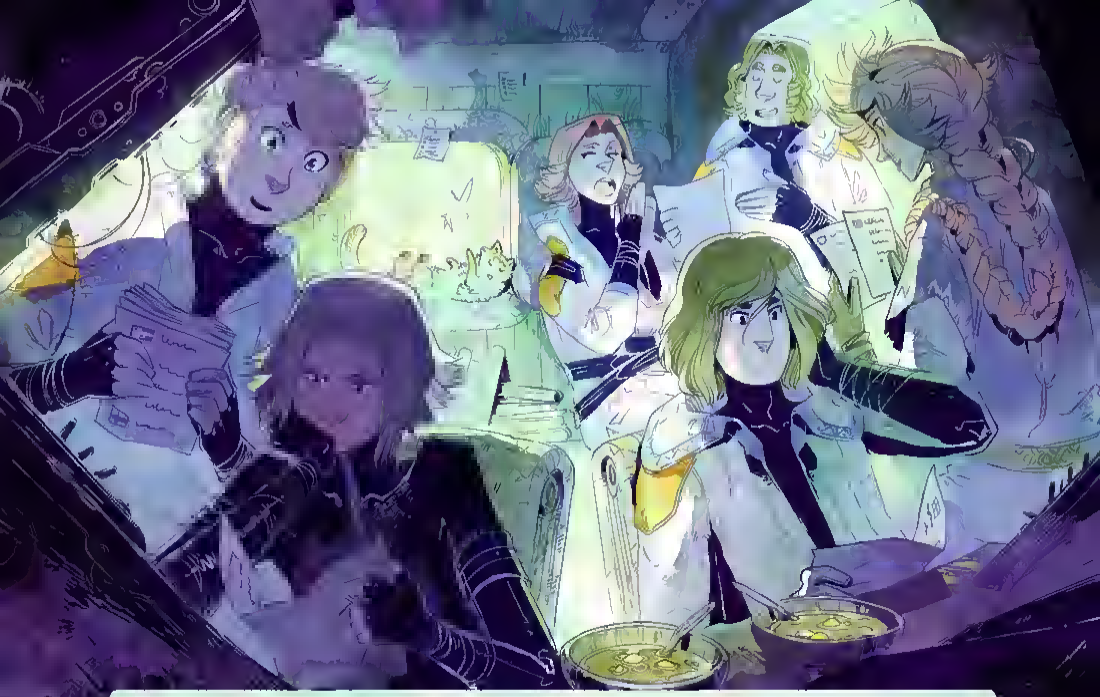
It's only an omen, stop looking so *stupid!*
Don't be afraid!
I think that looks like some kind of omen. It can't hurt us

Hey...I'll need some scout eyes once we get there, make sure to sleep for a few hours
Bed. Do you understand "bed" yet?
Nope, no understanding happening here. Translation, please!
You should sleep a bit. Sigrun needs you awake later.

I wish
we had gone home already
It's too late now
You were supposed to go to bed, you know
VVRRRRRRRRR



Missekat
PUSEKATT
KISU
Kissekatt
kisa
kisu



Dream	Draumur	Drøm	Drøm	Dröm	Uni
Friend	Vinur	Ven	Venn	Vän	Ystävä
Sun	Sól	Sol	Sol	Sol	Aurinko
Moon	Tungl	Måne	Måne	Måne	Kuu
Joyful	Glaður	Glad	Gledelig	Lycklig	Onnellinen
Happy	Hamingjusamur	Lykkelig	Lykkelig	Glad	Iloinen
Sad	Dapur	Trist	Trist	Sorglig	Surullinen
Hungry	Svangur	Sulten	Sulten	Hungrig	Nälkäinen
Thirsty	Þyrstur	Tørstig	Tørst	Törstig	Janoinen
Food	Matur	Mad	Mat	Mat	Ruoka
Drink	Drykkur	Drikke	Drikke	Dryck	Juoma
Danger	Hætta	Fare	Fare	Fara	Vaara